Notice of Appointments

Monday 3 July 2017

Founder of 11890 Directory Inquiries, Cloud90 and RiskEye, Nicola Byrne, has been elected as the President of the Irish Exporters Association (IEA). She is the first female president in the Association’s history.

Ms Byrne founded 11890 directory enquiries in 2006. In 2013, she created Cloud90. Currently, she is a board member of the New Children’s Hospital Group Board and a member of the Evaluation Board on Fingal’s Local Enterprise board. She has currently held positions as a board member of Ireland US Council and British Irish Chamber of Commerce.

She will replace Paschal McCarthy, who has held the position since January 2015.

Monday 3 July 2017

Denis Naughten TD, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, has announced appointments to the board of the Digital Hub Development Agency. He has also announced his attention to reappoint a current Chairman, Paul Holden.

Mr Paul Holden is currently Managing Director of Rédacteurs, “a Dublin-based professional services firm specialising in information design and development”. He was first elected to the Board in 2012 and first appointed as Chair in 2014.

The other two appointments are:

Ms Carol Gibbons; currently the Director ICT Programmes and Manager Electronics Sector at Enterprise Ireland. She has previously held roles at Forfás and the IDA

Ms Rachel Shelly; currently Manager of East Coast US & Canada: Content, Consumer & Business Services sector at IDA. She has also held roles at IDA’s New York office, and roles in marketing and management in the public sector.

Monday 3 July 2017

An Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise and Innovation, Frances Fitzgerald TD, has announced the appointment of the new Deputy Chair of the Labour Court: Ms Louise O’Donnell. The appointment had immediate effect.

The position was advertised through the Public Appointments Service.

Government Business: Bill to facilitate mediation in civil disputes

This week’s Oireachtas Business is scheduled to include discussions of the Mediation Bill 2017. The Bill was first introduce in February 2017 and was first referred to a Select Committee in March 2017.

The Bill, in the main, aims to facilitate a mediation mechanism for civil disputes. It would make “arrangements for mediation as an alternative to the institution of civil proceedings or to the continuation of civil proceedings”. It would also provide for regulation and structuring of any such system, and for related matters.

The Explanatory Memorandum outlines the main motivation for the Bill:

“to promote mediation as a viable, effective and efficient alternative to court proceedings, thereby reducing legal costs, speeding up the resolution of disputes and reducing the stress and acrimony which often accompanies court proceedings.”

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

‘Be careful with secrecy’: whistleblowing as a catalyst for cultural change
Read here

Procurement Basics
Quigg Golden
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Training

ICM Award in Public Procurement
Eight-day course, begins 13 September
PAI’s Certificate in Public Procurement will commence in mid-September. As this course is extremely popular we advise early booking. This 8 day course runs from 9:30am-4:30pm (daily) over the following dates: 13 & 14 September, 27 & 28 September, 11 & 12 October, and 25 & 26 October 2017.

Public Procurement is governed by comprehensive rules and regulations that, if ignored, may lead to claims from disgruntled tenderers or contractors. In light of recent developments, there is a growing recognition of the importance of a professional procurement function with qualified staff who are able to ensure compliance with EU and national directives, and deal with emerging social and environmental issues effecting procurement.

This 8-day course will equip you with the skills and competencies required to fulfill your role. A core component of the course is delivering a practical awareness and understanding of the recent Government and EU initiatives regarding procurement.

Click here for more information
This week in Dáil Éireann

Tuesday 11 July

2.00 p.m. Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, RIG, SD-GP) (32 mins)
2.32 p.m. Order of Business (30 mins)
Motion re. Oireachtas Committee Chairs (without debate)
3.02 p.m. Taoiseach’s Questions (45 mins)
3.47 p.m. P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Defence (90 mins)
5.17 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)
6.05 p.m. Government Business: (155 mins)
Statements on Srebrenica (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) (to conclude within 40 minutes)
Mediation Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)
Criminal Justice (Commission of Sexual Offences) (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (Kevin Boxer Moran) (Department of Justice and Equality)
8.40 p.m. Private Members Business (Labour): Waste Reduction Bill 2017 Second Stage (120 mins)
10.40 p.m. Dáil Adjourns

Wednesday 12 July

10.00 a.m. Government Business: (120 mins)
Ministers and Secretaries (Amendment) Bill 2017 - All Stages (Department of Rural and Community Affairs)
Motion re. Defence (Department of Defence) (to conclude within 40 minutes)
Mediation Bill 2017 - Report and Final Stages (resumed, if not previously continued) (Department of Justice and Equality)
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Finance)
12.00 p.m. Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, Sol-PBP, I4C) (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. P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Justice and Equality (90 mins)
3.17 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)
4.05 p.m. SOS (40 mins)
4.45 p.m. Private Members Business (Fianna Fáil): (120 mins)
Mortgage Arrears Resolutions (Family Home) Bill 2017 Second Stage (120 mins)
12.00 p.m. Dáil Adjourns

Thursday 13 July

10.00 a.m. Government Business: (180 mins)
Summer Economic Statements (Department of Finance) (to conclude after 3 hours if not previously concluded)
Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2017 - All Stages (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
National Shared Services Office Bill 2016 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Public Expenditure & Reform)
Adoption (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Amendments from the Seanad (Department of Children and Youth Affairs)
1.00 p.m. Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, LAB, I4C) (32 mins)
1.32 p.m. Questions on Promised Legislation (15 mins)
Motion re. Tenth Report of the Committee of Selection (without debate)
1.47 p.m. Weekly divisions (43 mins)
2.30 p.m. SOS (30 mins)
3.00 p.m. Government Business: (342 mins)
Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2017 - All Stages (Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government)
National Shared Services Office Bill 2016 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Public Expenditure & Reform)
Adoption (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Amendments from the Seanad (Department of Children and Youth Affairs)
Motion re. Framework Agreement with EU and Republic of the Philippines (back from Committee) (without debate)
8.42 p.m. P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (90 mins)
10.12 p.m. Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)
11.00 p.m. Dáil Adjourns

Friday 14 July

Dáil Éireann

10.00 a.m. Government Business: (8 hours)
Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Deputy James Browne) (Department of Health)
Independent Reporting Commission Bill 2017 - Committee and Remaining Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)
Social Welfare, Pensions and Civil Registration Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (to adjourn after the opening speeches) (Department of Social Protection)
Legal Metrology (Measuring Instruments) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)
Criminal Justice (Commission of Sexual Offences) (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Kevin Boxer Moran) (Department of Justice and Equality)
6.00 p.m. Adjournment
Tuesday 11 July

2.30 p.m. Commencement Matters

3.30 p.m. Order of Business

4.45 p.m. Private Members Business - Motion re: Srebrenica massacre - Senators Frank Feighan, Neale Richmond

5.45 p.m. Rugby World Cup 2023 Bill 2017 - All Stages - (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)

Private Members Business - Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland (Amendment) Bill 2014 – Report and Final Stages [Sinn Féin Senators]

Wednesday 12 July

10.30 a.m. Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m. Order of Business

12.45 p.m. Statements on School Transport (Minister of State for Training and Skills)

2.00 p.m. Motion regarding Report of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union. Brexit: Implications with Potential Solutions (Minister of State for European Affairs)

4.00 p.m. Autism Spectrum Disorder Bill 2017 – Committee & Remaining Stages (Senator James Reilly)

5.00 p.m. Private Members Business [Senators Ivana Bacik, Kevin Humphreys, Ged Nash, Aodhán Ó'Riordain]

7.00 p.m. Seanad Adjourns

Thursday 13 July

10.30 a.m. Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m. Order of Business

12.45 p.m. Ministers and Secretaries (Amendment) Bill 2017 - All Stages [Department of Rural and Community Affairs]

2.15 p.m. Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Bill 2016 - Second Stage [Department of Justice and Equality]
Tuesday 11 July

Public Accounts CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Health (Select) CR3, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2017 [Minister for Health]

Dáil Reform (Sub) Room 2, LH 4 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Education and Skills (joint) CR2, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: Matters related to the operation of the School Transport Scheme [Officials from the Department of Education and Skills and the National Parents' Council Primary; and the National Association of Boards of Management in Special Education (NABMSE)]

Seánad Procedure and Privileges R160 5-Storey Block 4.45 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

An Ghaeilge, an Ghaeltacht agus na hOileán (Comh) CR4, LH 2000 5 p.m.
AGENDA: Session A: 5 p.m. Gearmhadh na nÓl na Gaeilge [Foras na Gaeilge and Oifig na nÓibreachta Poiblí]
Session B: 6 p.m. Na dhuine a bhaineann leis an Oileán Thiar [Fórsa na hÉireannachtaí agus na dhuine a bhaineann leis an Ról na hÉireannachtaí]

Communications, Climate Action and Environment (joint) 1, CR3, LH 2000 5 p.m.
AGENDA: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Broadcasting (Amendment Bill) 2017 and Retransmission Fees [Officials from Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and Representatives from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland; Raidió Teilifís Éireann; and TG4]

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (joint) CR1, LH 2000 5.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Announcement by the UK Government regarding its withdrawal from the 1964 London Fisheries Convention; and (ii) issues concerning mussel seed quota allocation in Lough Foyle [Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine]

Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (joint) CR3, LH 2000 7.15 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Thursday 13 July

Public Accounts CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Business of the Committee;
(ii) Appropriation Accounts 2015
Vote 20: Garda Síochána
Vote 22: Courts Service [Officials from An Garda Síochána and Courts Service]

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (joint) CR2, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Overview of Operations and Functioning of NAMA including the recently published NAMA Annual Report and Financial Statements 2016 [Mr. Frank Daly, Chairman and Mr. Brendan McDonagh, Chief Executive Officer, National Asset Management Agency]

Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government(joint) CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Session A: Engagement with Mr. Jack Keyes, Chairperson Designate, Pyrite Resolution Board
Session B: Implementation of Housing & Homelessness Policies & Initiatives [Officials from Dublin City Council, Cork City Council, Waterford City & County Council and Fingal County Council]

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

Social Protection (joint) CR4, LH 2000 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence (Select) CR4, LH 2000 12.15 p.m.
AGENDA: The Framework Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of the Philippines, of the other part. [Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with special responsibility for the Diaspora and International Development]

Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (joint) CR2, LH 2000 2.15 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Wednesday 12 July

Children and Youth Affairs (joint) CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals: Schedule A: COM(2017) 262 (legal framework for the European Solidarity Corp);
(ii) Update on the Affordable Childcare Scheme; and
(iii) Issues arising in foster care services in Ireland (resumed) [Minister for Children and Youth Affairs]

Health (joint) CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Session A: 9.00 a.m. The processes and criteria used when evaluating ‘Orphan Drugs’ [Representatives from the Health Service Executive; and the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics]; Session B: 10.30 a.m. Funding of ‘Orphan Drugs’ [Representatives from the Alpha One Foundation; and Muscular Dystrophy Ireland]

Justice and Equality (joint) CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Engagement with Ms. Carol O’Farrell, Chairperson Designate, The Valuation Tribunal
(ii) Pension issues in relation to a group of Gardaí who left prior to 1 October 1976 [Mr. Oliver Shanley, Mr. Anthony Morris and Mr. Pat Hynes, former Gardaí]

Transport, Tourism and Sport (joint) CR4, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Ireland’s 2023 Rugby World Cup bid. [Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and Minister of State with responsibility for Tourism and Sport]

Justice and Equality (Select) CR2, LH 2000 11.15 a.m.
AGENDA: Thirty-fifth Amendment of the Constitution (Divorce) Bill 2016 [PMB] [Ms. Josephine Madigan TD]

Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (joint) CR4, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Public Petitions (joint) CR1, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Public Petitions received

Budgetary Oversight CR2, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Development and reform of the budget process [Representatives from the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC)]; (ii) Equality budgeting [Representatives from the National Women’s Council of Ireland (NWCI)]

Public Accounts CR3, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

European Union Affairs (joint) CR4, LH 2000 3.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Dáil Procedure Room 2, LH 6 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting