Notice of Appointments

Tuesday 7 November 2017

The Government have nominated Tony Murphy as Ireland’s new member of the European Court of Auditors. The appointment will begin in March 2018 and will run for six years.

Mr Murphy’s experience spans 30 years, with previous auditing roles in the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General, the European Commission, and the European Court of Auditors. He was chosen during an open competition for the role.

The Government must now communicate their nomination to the authorities in Brussels. Upon completion of the European Parliament’s consultation process, and the hearing before the Budgetary Control Committee of the Parliament, the nomination will appear before the European Council for final approval.

Mr Murphy will take over the role from Kevin Cardiff, whose position will come to an end in February 2018.

* The Government have approved the appointment of Justice Mary Finlay Geoghegan to the Supreme Court; she will fill one of the vacancies left by a number of recent Supreme Court retirements.

Ms Finlay Geoghegan was appointed to the High Court in 2002. She was later promoted to the Court of Appeal in 2014.

* The Cabinet has also nominated senior counsel David Barniville, a former Chairman of the Bar Council, to the High Court. This follows the retirement of Justice Margaret Heneghan last month.

Mr Barniville came a qualified barrister in 1990, and progressed to the level of senior counsel in 2006.

Amendment for Health and Social Care Professions to be discussed

This week in the Dáil, they will discuss the Health and Social Care Professional (Amendment) Bill 2017. It would amend the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005, which “provides for the statutory regulation of the 14 professions currently designated under the Act”.

If enacted, the Bill would amend the Act in three main areas:
1. Bridging gaps in the current legislation in relation to the appointment of professional members to the Health and Social Care Professionals Council, and other registration boards;
2. Allowing registration boards to put in place minimum conditions of education or experience for potential members;
3. Expanding on the conditions for the registration of physiotherapists/physical therapists in the register of physiotherapists.

Ten of the 14 professions named in the principal Act have now established a registration boards, with the remaining four expected to be established by 2018.

You can view the Bill here
At Public Affairs Ireland

On the Blog

Getting Value for Money
Tom Ferris
Read here

Fr Peter McVerry on a Constitutional Right to Housing
Fr Peter McVerry
Read here

The LGOPC & establishing a Dynamic Purchasing System for Local Authorities
Thomas Griffin
Read here

Moving towards a universal eInvoicing format
Declan McCormack
Read here

The NATO-EU “war against neutrality”
Dr Karen Devine
Read here

Training

Certificate in Data Protection: GDPR Essentials

Due to a high level of demand, PAI have added two additional dates for our Level 1 Certificate in Data Protection: GDPR Essentials.

This two-day Certificate courses helps attendees build a solid foundation of knowledge on the current data protection regime in Ireland, and the important changes that the GDPR will usher in. It explores data subject rights, and the role of the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.

To book 23 & 24 November, click here

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

**Tuesday 14 November**

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

2.32 p.m.  
Order of Business (30 mins)  
Motions without debate:  
Motion re. Estimate Provision for the Horse & Greyhound Racing Fund Allocation for 2018 (Referral to Committee) (Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine)  
Motion re. Changes to Standing Orders 23, 25, 29A, 38, 110A and 140

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

3.47 p.m.  
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (90 mins)

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

6.05 p.m.  
Government Business: (115 mins)  
Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)

8.00 p.m.  
Private Members Business (Sinn Féin): Multi-Party Action Bill 2017 - Second Stage (120 mins)

10.00 p.m.  
Dáil Adjourns

**Wednesday 15 November**

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.  
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Health (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 (Labour Party): (120 mins)  
Housing (Homeless Families) Bill 2017 Second Stage

6.45 p.m.  
Government Business: (210 mins)  
Diplomatic Relations (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)  
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Health)  
Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage (Department of Justice and Equality)

10.15 p.m.  
Dáil Adjourns

**Thursday 16 November**

12.00 p.m.  
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, I4C, RIG) (32 mins)

12.32 p.m.  
Questions on Promised Legislation (15 mins)  
Government Business:  
Motion re. Further Revised Estimate – Vote 34 – Housing, Planning and Local Government (without debate) (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)

12.47 p.m.  
Weekly divisions (43 mins)

1.30 p.m.  
Government Business: (120 mins)  
Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Justice and Equality)

3.30 p.m.  
P.Q.s: Oral – Minister Foreign Affairs and Trade (90 mins)

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

5.48 p.m.  
Committee Report/PMB: 5.48 p.m. – 7.48 p.m. (120 mins)  
Report entitled Scrutiny of the Banded Hours Contract Bill 2016 [PMB] - Joint Committee on Business, Enterprise and Innovation

7.48 p.m.  
Dáil Adjourns
### Tuesday 14 November

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| 3.30 p.m. | Order of Business  
Motion regarding the Horse and Greyhound Racing Fund 2018 – Referral to Committee without debate (Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine) |
| 4.45 p.m. | Statements on the Diaspora (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)                      |
| 6.15 p.m. | Statements on the Report of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing, Planning and Local Government entitled: “The Impact of Short Term Lettings on Ireland’s Housing and Rental Market” (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government) |
| 8.15 p.m. | Seanad Adjourns                                                                           |

### Wednesday 15 November

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| 11.30 a.m. | Order of Business  
Water Services Bill 2017 – Committee Stage (Department of Housing Planning and Local Government) |
| 12.45 p.m. | Statements on Health (Department of Health)                                               |
| 5.30 p.m. | Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017 – Report Stage (Amendments from Dáil Éireann) and Final Stage (Department of Justice and Equality) |
| 6.00 p.m. | Private Members Business: Motion re JobPath (Senators Rose Conway Walsh, Paul Gavan, Fintan Warfield, Pádraig Mac Lochlainn, Trevor Ó Clochertagh, Niall Ó Donnghaile) |
| 8.00 p.m. | Seanad Adjourns                                                                           |

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Water Services Bill 2017 – Report and Final Stages  
Motion for the Earlier Signature of the Water Services Bill 2017 - without debate (Department of Housing Planning and Local Government) |

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Tuesday 14 November

Housing, Planning and Local Government (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 11 a.m.
AGENDA: Session A: Private Meeting
Session B: Detailed Scrutiny of the Electoral (Amendment)(No.3) Bill 2014 [PMB] (resumed) [Officials from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government]

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:
(ii) Issues surrounding Climate Change [Officials from Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine]

Thursday 16 November

Public Accounts
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Business of the Committee;
(ii) Engagement on Education and Training Board (ETB) Sector
Matters relating to ETB Sector as outlined in C&AG Report 99 Financial Reporting in the Public Sector
Session B: City of Dublin ETB - 2015 Financial Statements
Kilkenny and Carlow ETB - 2016 Financial Statements
Session C: Tipperary ETB - 2015 Financial Statements
Kildare and Wicklow ETB - 2013/2014 Financial Statements

Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Session A - 9:30 a.m. [Patrick Paul Walsh, Professor of International Development Studies, UCD]
Session B - 11:00 a.m. [Ambassadors of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Kenya]

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 10.15 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Dáil Business
R160 5-Storey Block 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Wednesday 15 November

Health (joint)
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Rights, Resources and Regulation of Homecare
Session A: 9 a.m. [Officials from the Department of Health; and Representatives from the Health Research Board]
Session B: 10.30 a.m. [Representatives from Age Action Ireland; Dr. Eamonn O’Shea, Health Economist; and Representatives from the National Community Care Network (NCCN)]

Housing, Planning and Local Government (Select)
CR1, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: 2017 Further Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 34 (Housing, Planning and Local Government) [Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government]

Justice and Equality (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Communications (Data Retention) Bill 2017 [Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) and National Union of Journalists (NUJ)]

Rural and Community Development (Select)
CR4, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: 2017 Further Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 42 (Rural and Community Development) [Minister for Rural and Community Development]

Seánad Selection
R160 5-Storey Block 10 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Dáil Reform (Sub)
R160 5-Storey Block 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Housing, Planning and Local Government (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Mid-year review of the 2017 Estimates for Public Services – Vote 34 (Housing, Planning and Local Government) [Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government]

Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (Select)
CR4, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: 2017 Further Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 33 (Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht) [Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht]
Meastacháin Athbhreihnithe Vóta 33 (Cultúr, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltacht) [An tAire Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta]

Transport, Tourism and Sport (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Engagement with Mr. David McGarry, Chairperson Designate, Shannon Foynes Port Company and Mr. Fred Barry, Chairperson Designate, National Transport Authority

European Union Affairs (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Engagement on the Future of Europe (resumed) [Mr Joe Healy, President, Irish Farmers’ Association (IFA)]

Education and Skills (Select)
CR2, LH 2000 5 p.m.
AGENDA: Technological Universities Bill 2015 [Minister of State for Higher Education]