

Notice of Appointments

Friday 27 October 2017

Denis Naughten TD, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, has announced the appointment of Geoffrey Meagher as Director and Chairperson Designate of the Board of Bord na Móna.

The appointment was immediately effective, and will last for a period of five years. The appointment follows an open competition facilitated by the Public Appointments Service.

Mr Meagher is a management consultant, operating his own consultancy company since 2009. He is a Certified Public Accountant. He has over 30 years' senior management experience.

Bord na Móna is a majority State-owned company that deals in "the power generation, fuel supply, peat production, horticulture supply, biomass supply and resource recovery industries" across the country. It is expected that Mr Meagher will appear before the Oireachtas Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment. This is congruent with the revised procedures of the Government for Chairpersons of State Boards.

Available Appointments

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht are currently seeking a Director for the Creative Ireland Programme. The Creative Ireland programme is described as "a high-level, high-ambition, all-of government initiative to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation".

Candidates should have significant senior leadership experience, strong interpersonal and communications skills, and the ability to define and manage new policy.

You can read more about what the position requires in the posting booklet, [available here](#).

Closing date for submission is Thursday 9 November. You can find the listing on publicjobs.ie, [available here](#).

Bill calls for period payments of damages

This week, members of the Dáil will discuss the Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017.

In the main, the Bill affords the courts the ability to grant consensual and non-consensual periodic payments orders (PPOs), as opposed to lump-sum payments, where there is a catastrophic injury to the victim that would require long-term care.

[You can view the Bill here.](#)

Heritage Bill to provide clarification

This week will also see discussion of the Heritage Bill 2016. This Bill has three main purposes:

1. Following the Report of the Critical Review of the Heritage Council, it will amend the Heritage Act 1995 to provide for the regulation of cutting and burning of vegetation.
2. It provides for clarification of the Wildlife Acts regarding the powers of authorised officers.
3. It would amend the Canals Act 1986 to facilitate the creation of bye-laws "for the regulation of the use of the canals and other canal property".

[You can view the Bill here.](#)



At Public Affairs Ireland

On the Blog

Implications of Brexit for Ireland's Transport Sectors

Tom Ferris

Read [here](#)

Fr Peter McVerry on a Constitutional Right to Housing

Fr Peter McVerry

Read [here](#)

Corporate Social Responsibility: the role of the Public Sector and the future direction of sustainable development

Bernadette Phelan

Read [here](#)

The LGOPC & establishing a Dynamic Purchasing System for Local Authorities

Thomas Griffin CEng

Read [here](#)

GDPR – Raising Standards for Data Management, Privacy, and Security in the Public Sector

Daragh O'Brien

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...

Annual Procurement Conference 2017: Technology-led Public Procurement

Discussion topics will include:

Consolidation phase for EU Directives?

E-Procurement, unlocking the potential

Digital transformation

PEPPOL, what is it?

Fostering greater competition in procurement

Implications of e-procurement for purchasing officials

Dynamic purchasing system in practice, case study

Can SMEs benefit from e-invoicing?

Brexit, impact on cross-border procurement competition

Improved governance, the simplification of procedures and the greater use of electronic tools is shaping and changing the way procurement is done in Ireland.

Transparent, fair and competitive public procurement across the EU's Single Market is meant to generate business opportunities, drive economic growth and create jobs. By rethinking the approach to purchasing, professionalising public buyers, cutting red-tape, and capitalising on the benefits of the digital revolution and artificial intelligence, public administrations can be made more efficient, more effective, and more citizen- and business-friendly.

Increasing the use of e-procurement can generate significant savings. These savings should maximise the efficiency of public spending. E-procurement can also provide a new source of economic growth and jobs, including by facilitating access to public procurement contracts by small- and medium-sized enterprises.

The public sector is being encouraged to use procurement strategically to drive key policies such as those aimed at creating a more innovative, greener, and more socially-inclusive economy.

Attendees

This conference should be attended by everyone involved in public procurement in Ireland, it will be a useful policy focused event and will offer valuable opportunities for networking with colleagues across the sector.

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Tuesday 7 November

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

2.32 p.m.
Order of Business (30 mins)
Motion re. Terms of Reference of Select Committee on Rural and Community Development, Fourteenth Report of the Committee of Selection and Appointment of Chair of Select Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (without debate)
Motion re. Financial Resolutions for the Finance Bill 2017 (without debate)

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

3.47 p.m.
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection (90 mins)

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

6.05 p.m.
Government Business: (2 hrs 55 mins)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017 [Seanad] - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)

9.00 p.m.
Private Members Business (Sinn Féin): Motion re. Housing (120 mins)

11.00 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Thursday 9 November

10.00 a.m.
Government Business (120 mins)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017 [Seanad] - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)
Heritage Bill 2016 [Seanad] - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht)

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

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

12.47 p.m.
Weekly divisions (43 mins)

1.30 p.m.
SOS (30 mins)

2.00 p.m.
Government Business (120 mins)
Motion re. Report on Scrutiny of the Cannabis for Medicinal Use Regulation Bill 2016 (Joint Committee on Health)

4.00 p.m.
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform (90 mins)

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

6.18 p.m.
Committee Report/PMB: (120 mins)
Garda Síochána (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Second Stage - Deputy Jim O'Callaghan

8.18 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Wednesday 8 November

10.00 a.m.
Government Business: (120 mins)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017 [Seanad] - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)

12.00 p.m.
Leaders' Questions (FF, SF, Sol-PBP, RIG) (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 Agriculture, Food and the Marine (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): Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (120 mins)

6.45 p.m.
Government Business (4 hrs 15 mins)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill 2017 [Seanad] - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality)
Heritage Bill 2016 [Seanad] - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht)

11.00 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

This week in Seanad Éireann

Wednesday 8 November

10.30 a.m.
Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m.
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.
Private Members Business: International Protection (Family Reunification) (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Committee Stage (Senators Colette Kelleher, Lynn Ruane, Frances Black, Alice Mary Higgins, Grace O'Sullivan, John Dolan)

3.15 p.m.
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015 - Committee Stage (resumed) (Department of Health)

8.00 p.m.
Seanad Adjourns

Thursday 9 November

10.30 a.m.
Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m.
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.
Legal Metrology (Measuring Instruments) Bill 2017 - Report and Final Stages (Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation)

3.15 p.m.
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015 - Committee Stage (resumed) (Department of Health)

6.00 p.m.
Seanad Adjourns

This week's Committee Meetings

Tuesday 7 November

Business, Enterprise and Innovation (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 12 noon

AGENDA: Private Meeting

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 4 p.m.

AGENDA: Upcoming CAP Negotiations [Officials from Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine]

Education and Skills (Joint)

CR3, LH 2000 4 p.m.

AGENDA: Session A: Home School Community Liaison Scheme [Ms. Aisling Browne & Ms. Jenny Gannon, Home School Community Liaison Teachers; officials from the Department of Education and Skills; the Irish National Teachers' Organisation (INTO); and TUSLA]

Session B: Strengthening Families Programme [Representatives from Foróige];

Session C: WorldSkills Competition 2017, Abu Dhabi [Irish WorldSkills 2017 delegation; and representatives from SOLAS].

An Ghaeilge, an Ghaeltacht agus na hOileáin (Comh)

CR4, LH 2000 5 p.m.

AGENDA: An Scéim Ghinearálta agus an Dréacht-Cheannteideal de Bhille na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2017 [Oifigigh ón Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta]

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)

CR2, LH 2000 6 p.m.

AGENDA: Finance Bill 2017 [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure & Reform]

Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 7.15 p.m.

AGENDA: Private Meeting

Thursday 9 November

Housing, Planning and Local Government (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 9 a.m.

AGENDA: Local Government Finance - An Examination of the Funding Model

Session A: [Representatives from the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG), County City and Management Association (CCMA) and National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC)]; and

Session B: [Officials from the Local Government Audit Service & Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government]

Public Accounts

CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.

AGENDA: (i) Business of the Committee;

(ii) Appropriation Accounts 2016 Vote 29: Communications, Climate Action and Environment

[Officials from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment]

Employment Affairs and Social Protection (Select)

CR4, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.

AGENDA: 2017 Further Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 37 (Employment Affairs and Social Protection) [Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection]

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)

CR2, LH 2000 10 a.m.

AGENDA: Finance Bill 2017 (resumed) [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure & Reform]

Dáil Business

R160 5-Storey Block 10.30 a.m.

AGENDA: Private Meeting

Employment Affairs and Social Protection (Joint)

CR4, LH 2000 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA: Community Employment Scheme [Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection]

European Union Affairs (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.

AGENDA: Key developments on the European Agenda [Minister of State for European Affairs]

Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 4.15 p.m.

AGENDA: Legacy Issues (resumed) [Mr. Kenny Donaldson, Mr. Ken Funston, Ms. Karen McAnerney, Ms. Shelly Gilfillan, Innocent Victims United; Mr. Austin Stack, Mr. David Kelly, Independent Victims and Survivors Coalition; Ms. Barbara Walshe, Chair of the Board, Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, Mr. Pat Hynes, Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation]

Wednesday 8 November

Health (Joint)

CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.

AGENDA: The evaluation of 'Orphan Drugs' in Ireland and delays in reimbursing the costs of approved medicines [Representatives from the Health Service Executive; and the National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics]

Justice and Equality (Joint)

CR4, LH 2000 9 a.m.

AGENDA: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Communications (Data Retention) Bill 2017

Session A: [Officials from the Department of Justice and Equality]

Session B: [Mr. Simon McGarr, Solicitor, and Mr. TJ McIntyre, Law Lecturer in UCD and Chair of Digital Rights Ireland]

Children and Youth Affairs (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.

AGENDA: The August 2017 Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) Inspection Report on Oberstown Children Detention Campus [Representatives from Oberstown Children Detention Campus]

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)

CR2, LH 2000 10 a.m.

AGENDA: Finance Bill 2017 (resumed) [Minister for Finance and Public Expenditure & Reform]

Dáil Reform (Sub)

R160 5-Storey Block 10.30 a.m.

AGENDA: Private Meeting

Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (Joint)

CR3, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.

AGENDA: Session A: International Legal/Services Context [Dr. Gilda Sedgh, Principal Research Scientist, The Guttmacher Institute; Ms. Leah Hctor, Regional Director for Europe, Center for Reproductive Rights]

Session B: Medical Law Review [Dr. Ruth Fletcher, Senior Lecturer in Medical Law from Queen Mary University in London]

Session C: Risks to Mental Health [Dr. Anthony Mc Carthy, Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist, National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street]

Public Petitions (Joint)

CR1, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.

AGENDA: Public Petitions received

Future of Mental Health Care (Joint)

CR4, LH 2000 2 p.m.

AGENDA: Private Meeting

Public Accounts

CR1, LH 2000 4.30 p.m.

AGENDA: Private Meeting