

Next week in the Oireachtas

This week in the Dáil, the Credit Guarantee Bill 2012 will be discussed at second stage. In the Seanad the Statute Law Revision Bill 2012 will be discussed at second stage. The Communications, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee will meet on Wednesday to discuss the report on the Investigation Pursuant to Section 53 of the Broadcasting Act 2009 in relation to “Prime Time Investigates – Mission to Prey” programme.



News & Appointments

Government approves four nominees to the General Assembly of the Irish Red Cross Society

The Government has approved Mr Máirtín O’Fainín, Ms Mary Flaherty, Mr Darren Ryan and Mr Cathal Duffy as nominees to the General Assembly of the Red Cross. They will serve a five year term.

Máirtín O’Fainín has worked in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for a number of years, most recently serving as Irish Ambassador to Australia and prior to that as Ambassador to Argentina before his retirement last year.

Mary Flaherty is a former Fine Gael TD from Dublin who previously served as Minister of State at the Department of Social Welfare and as Fine Gael spokesperson on development affairs. She is currently the Chief Executive of The CARI Foundation.

Darren Ryan is the current Mayor of Clonmel and is also a Labour Party Councillor on South Tipperary County Council. He was first elected to

Clonmel Borough Council in 2004 and to South Tipperary County Council in 2007 and is currently leader of the Labour Party on both Councils. Mr Ryan has been involved with the Red Cross for many years and he works in a Day Activation Centre for adults with intellectual disabilities, run by the Brothers of Charity.

Cathal Duffy, Principal Officer in the Department of Defence is being re-appointed by the Government. Mr Duffy previously worked in the Department of Agriculture and in the Office of the Information Commissioner.

The Red Cross Society was established by the Irish Red Cross Society Order 1939 as an independent charitable body. According to the 1939 legislation, the Red Cross is responsible for the handling of its own internal affairs. However a key decision taken on April 17 2012 amends this and allows the Government to nominate up

to ten percent of the membership of the Society’s General Assembly.

The nomination of these “four high calibre individuals” to the Red Cross “represents a further important step taken by this Government to restoring the full confidence of the public in the Irish Red Cross Society”, according to the Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence, Alan Shatter TD. He added that the changes “will copper-fasten the strong impetus for change that now exists within the Society itself and whilst a lot of important measures have been taken over the past year, particularly in relation to re-structuring its corporate governance, I would urge the Society to maintain the momentum and to ensure that the value that these nominations can bring to the Society is fully utilised.”

New Director appointed to the EPA

Mr Gerard O’Leary has been appointed by the Government as a Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Mr O’Leary has been working in a number of capacities with the EPA since 1994. He most recently had responsibility for the Office of Environmental Enforcement within the Agency. He commenced his career with South Tipperary County Council

and holds masters degrees in analytical chemistry, environmental science and public management.

The vacancy was created following the appointment of Ms Laura Burke as Director General of the Agency in November 2011. Candidates were selected by an independent statutory selection committee chaired by Ms Geraldine Tallon, Secretary General, Department of the Environment,

Community and Local Government.

The posts of Director General and Director are full time executive positions, based at the Agency’s headquarters. Mr O’Leary has been appointed for a term of five years.

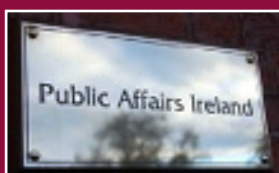
Appointments to the High and District Courts

The Government has nominated two persons for appointment by the President to the High Court and three persons for appointment by the President to the District Court.

McDermott SC and Iseult O’Malley SC have been nominated to the High

Court while Colin Daly, Solicitor, Mary Larkin, Solicitor and John O’Connor, Solicitor have been appointed to the District Court.

These nominations arose following a number of judicial retirements and promotions in the High and District Courts.



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Bill to overhaul obsolete laws published

The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Brendan Howlin TD, this week published the Statute Law Revision Bill 2012 which will repeal an estimated 2,900 obsolete laws enacted between 1751 and Irish Independence in 1922.

As well as repealing the Acts, the Bill will also specify an estimated 790 pieces of legislation

which are to be kept in force. These include the Saint Stephen's Green (Dublin) Act 1877 and the Dublin Science and Art Museum Act 1877.

The Bill forms part of the statute of law revision initiated in 2003 and when enacted will bring the number of Acts eliminated to almost 8,000. This does not include the 40,557 Acts already

implicitly repealed by the legislation and in this regard, the Minister has described the Bill as "the most extensive statute law revision measures ever attempted anywhere in the world. It puts Ireland in a leadership position internationally in terms of the management and updating of our statute book."

First mediator of new Dental Complaints Resolution Service announced

Chairman of the Consumers Association of Ireland, Michael Kilcoyne is to be the first mediator of the newly established Dental Complaints Resolution Service.

The new independent service, which has the backing of the Irish Dental Association, will offer dental patients and dentists the opportunity

to settle their differences with the assistance of a professional mediator. The service will be free of charge and will be based in Castlebar, Co Mayo.

Mr Kilcoyne has welcomed the timely launch of the service which he feels will allow patients to express their concerns without having to go through the costly and time consuming complaint

mechanisms of the Dental Council or the Civil Courts. He also highlighted the benefit of the service for those in the dental profession who, up to now, "have not had the benefit of a system which can address genuine concerns as they arise as well as offering invaluable feedback".

A New Era for Data Protection in Ireland

Public Affairs Ireland Conference

Wednesday June 13 2012

9am - 1pm

Westin Hotel, Dublin City Centre



On June 13 2012, Public Affairs Ireland is holding a special conference focusing on current and emerging issues in data protection in Ireland. There are a range of recent developments in data protection, making this conference both timely and relevant. Topics that will be discussed include:

- Data Protection and the delivery of public services – the issues arising on data sharing across public sector agencies.
- Ireland as a global centre for Internet Search Engines, data storage facilities and social media companies – how national regulation of data protection in Ireland has global impacts.
- Pending EU reforms on data protection and the impact for organisations and individuals in Ireland, and
- Dealing with the consequences of a breach in data security – managing the reputational and legal risks involved.

The conference will feature a range of leading speakers who will address the Irish and EU dimension including lawyers, ICT professionals and policymakers. The conference will be practically focused and be of interest to all organisations involved in the processing and storage of personal data. In particular it will be of interest to public sector bodies involved in the collection, management and processing of personal data of citizens.



[Click here to register online](#)

For more information please call us on 01 8198500

Education and Training Events in Public Affairs Ireland

Public Affairs Ireland provides a range of training courses and CPD seminars on public affairs and regulatory matters. Both our training courses and CPD seminars are taught by leading experts in each relevant discipline, who bring a sharp practical focus to our events. Please click here for a list of upcoming events.

Dáil

May 15	May 16	May 17
<p>2pm Questions (Minister for Children and Youth Affairs)</p> <p>3.15pm Leaders Questions</p> <p>3.36pm Questions (Taoiseach)</p> <p>4.36pm Order of Business</p> <p>5.06pm Topical Issues</p> <p>European Arrest Warrant (Application to Third Countries and Amendment) and Extradition (Amendment) Bill 2011 Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p>7.30pm Private Members Business</p>	<p>2.30pm Questions (Minister for Health)</p> <p>3.45pm Topical Issues</p> <p>4.33pm Leaders Questions</p> <p>4.54pm Order of Business</p> <p>5.24pm Credit Guarantee Bill 2012 Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)</p> <p>7.30pm Private Members Business</p>	<p>10.30am Leaders Questions</p> <p>10.51am Order of Business</p> <p>Statements on 44th Plenary of the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly (to conclude within 2 hours) (Department of Foreign Affairs)</p> <p>Credit Guarantee Bill 2012 Second Stage Resumed (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)</p> <p>European Arrest Warrant (Application to Third Countries and Amendment) and Extradition (Amendment) Bill 2011) Second Stage Resumed (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p>3.42pm Topical Issues</p> <p>4.30pm Questions (Minister for Defence)</p>

Seanad

May 15	May 16	May 17
<p>14:30 Order of Business</p> <p>15:45 Statements on Mortgage Arrears [Minister of State for Public Service Reform and the OPW] Spokespersons M.D'Arcy/Tom Sheahan</p>	<p>12:30 Order of Business</p> <p>13:45 Statute Law Revision Bill 2012 – Order for Second Stage and Second Stage [Minister of State for Public Service Reform and the OPW] Spokespersons M.D'Arcy/Tom Sheahan</p> <p>15:30 Statements on Symphysiotomy - Minister of State with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality & Mental Health Spokesperson Senator Colm Burke</p> <p>17:30pm Education (Amendment) Bill 2012 – Report Stage (Amendments from Dáil Éireann [Minister for Education] Spokesperson Jim D'Arcy</p>	<p>10:30 Order of Business</p> <p>11:45 Companies (Amendment) Bill 2012 – Order for Second Stage and Second Stage.</p> <p>13:45 Discussion on the Treaty on Stability, Co-ordination and Governance in the Economic & Monetary Union</p>

Committee Meetings

May 15	May 16	May 17
<p>1.30pm Communications, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (resumed); [Representatives from the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association, and Representatives from Macra na Feirme]</p> <p>2pm Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: 2012 Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 32 (Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation) [Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation]</p> <p>2.30pm Health and Children Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Draft Heads of Children First Bill 2012: [Session 1: Ms. Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children Session 2: Ms. Irene Gunning, Chief Executive Officer, Early Childhood Ireland; Ms. Ciairín de Buis, Director, Startstrong; Ms. Patricia Murray, Chief Executive Officer, Childminding Ireland.]</p>	<p>9.30am Jobs, Social Protection and Education Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: (i) Unemployment and Youth Unemployment [resumed] [Martin Murphy, Managing Director Hewlett-Packard Ireland]; (ii) Operation of the Globalisation Adjustment Fund [Officials from the Department of Education and Skills] and (iii) Scrutiny of EU legislative Proposals; (a) COM(2012)130: Proposal for a Council Regulation on the exercise of the right to take collective action within the context of the freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services; http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2012:0130:FIN:EN:PDF and (b) COM(2012)131: Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the enforcement of Directive 96/71/EC concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services</p> <p>12 noon Communications, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: Report on Investigation Pursuant to Section 53 of the Broadcasting Act 2009 – in respect of the Programme “Prime Time Investigates – Mission to Prey”: [The Chief Executive, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland: The Chairman and the Director General, RTE]</p> <p>12 noon Members' Interests of Dáil Éireann Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>2pm European Scrutiny - Finance and Public Expenditure (Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform) Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>2.30pm Transport, Tourism and Sport (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Bill 2012 [Seanad]</p>	<p>3pm Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: An Audit of Irish Debt [Dr. Sheila Killian, Dr. John Garvey and Ms Frances Shaw, University of Limerick]</p> <p>3pm Justice, Defence and Equality Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: (i) Motion re: Agreement between the European Union and the United States of America on the use and transfer of Passenger Name Records to the United States Department of Homeland Security [Minister for Justice and Equality]; (ii) Frank Callanan SC Report into the deaths of three soldiers in the Lebanon on 21 March 1989 [Minister for Defence] and (iii) Review of the Reserve Defence Forces [Minister for Defence]</p> <p>4.15pm Sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs) Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>5.15pm Foreign Affairs and Trade Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: 2012 Revised Estimates for Public Services - Vote 27 (International Co-operation); and Vote 28 (Foreign Affairs and Trade) [Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade]</p> <p>5.30pm Sub-Committee on Dáil Reform Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting Submissions in relation to the Mediation Bill [Representatives from CEDR Ireland; Family Mediation Ireland; The Dublin Solicitors Bar Association; Irish Commercial Mediation Association; Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; and Mediate Ireland]</p>