

This week in the Oireachtas



Statements will be made in the Dáil this week following the European Council meetings which took place last week. In the Seanad, the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Bill 2012 will be discussed at second stage. The European Union Affairs Committee will meet next week to discuss planning and priorities for Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2013. Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs, Lucinda Creighton will attend.

Minister for Local Government announces appointment to the Board of the Western Development Commission

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Phil Hogan TD, has indicated that he proposes to appoint businessman Paddy McGuinness as chair to the board of the Western Development Commission. The appointment is for the term of the existing board which runs until February 20 2014.

McGuinness will come before the Oireachtas committee for Environment, Transport, Culture and the Gaeltacht, before the appointment is confirmed.

Additional members of the board include: Mary Devine O'Callaghan, practice manager, Kilrane O'Callaghan & Company Solicitors; Mary Hoade, member of Galway County Council; Jackie Maguire, Leitrim County Manager; Martina

Minogue, Director, e Teams; Mr Neville Bagnall, businessman and member of the Council for the West; Katie Sweeney, CEO, Co Mayo VEC; Gerry O'Connor, businessman; Vincent Roche, former CEO North Western Regional Fisheries Board; Joe Kelly, teacher and former member of Donegal County Council; and Jim Devenney, farmer and community worker.

The Western Development Commission (WDC) is a statutory body with responsibility for fostering and promoting economic and social development in the Western Region (counties Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway and Clare).

New board of Údarás na Gaeltachta announced

Membership of the new board of Údarás na Gaeltachta was announced this week by the Minister of State with special responsibility for Gaeltacht Affairs, Dinny McGinley TD.

Anna Ní Ghallchóir was appointed as chair of the board taking over from previous chair, Liam Ó Cuinneagáin. Ms NíGhallchóir is the Director of the Languages Centre in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Members of the new board include: Seán Ó Cuireán; Cathal Seoighe (nominated by Meath County Council); Dairfona Nic an Iomaire; Eunan Mac Cuinneagáin; Fiachra Ó Ceilleachair; Ian Mac Aindriú (nominated by Mayo County Council); Micheál Ó Scanaill; Pádraig Ó hAinifín; Séamus Cosá Mac Gearailt (nominated by Kerry County Council); and Seosamh Ó Laoi, County Councillor (nominated by Galway County Council).

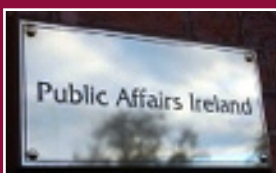
These members have been elected under a new system following the implementation of the Gaeltacht Act 2012. In accordance to the Act, membership of the Údarás Board has been reduced to 12, where five positions are determined by seven County Councils and the remaining seven, including the

Chair, are appointed by the Minister. Currently however, only four of five members nominated by County Councils have been appointed as the nomination by Donegal County Council, yet to be ratified.

The term of office for newly elected members will not exceed five years and members shall not be appointed to office for more than two consecutive terms.

Announcing the new board, Minister McGinley declared that "while Údarás na Gaeltachta undoubtedly faces challenging times ahead, I am confident that the ability, experience and wide range of skills of all the board members will greatly benefit both Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Gaeltacht community in the coming years."

Údarás na Gaeltachta was established in 1980 and is the regional authority responsible for the economic, social and cultural development of the Gaeltacht.



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Oireachtas Schedule: Week beginning November 26

Dáil

November 27	November 28	November 29
<p>2pm Questions (Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport)</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>Motion re Annual Report to Dáil Éireann re Service by the Defence Forces with the United Nations (Referral to Committee without debate) (Department of Defence)</p> <p>Motion re EU Decision on European Refugee Integration and Return Funds (Referral to Committee without Debate) (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p>Electoral (Amendment) (Dáil Constituencies) Bill 2012 Second Stage resumed (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government)</p> <p>7.30pm Private Members Business</p>	<p>10.30am Leaders Questions</p> <p>10.51am Order of Business</p> <p>Post European Council Statements (to conclude in 85 minutes)</p> <p>Credit Union Bill 2012 Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (to conclude at 7.30pm if not previously concluded) (Department of Finance)</p> <p>Electoral (Amendment) (Dáil Constituencies) Bill 2012 Second Stage resumed (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government)</p> <p>1.30pm SOS</p> <p>2.30pm Questions (Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)</p> <p>3.45pm Topical Issues</p> <p>4.33pm Afternoon Business Continued</p> <p>7.30pm</p>	<p>10.30am Leaders Questions</p> <p>10.51am Order of Business</p> <p>Supplementary Estimates (Back from Committee without debate)</p> <p>Motion re Eligible Liability Guarantee Scheme (to conclude after 65 minutes) (Department of Finance)</p> <p>Statements on the 'Report of the Expert Group on the Judgement in the A, B, and C Versus Ireland case' (to adjourn after opening statements)</p> <p>Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill 2012 Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Health)</p> <p>Civil Defence Bill 2012 (Seanad) Second Stage (Department of Defence)</p> <p>5.00pm Topical Issues</p> <p>5.48pm Questions (Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources)</p>

Seanad

November 27	November 28	November 29
<p>2.30pm Order of Business</p> <p>Motion regarding revision of Standing Orders [Private Business] - to be taken without debate. [Leas Cathaoirleach]</p> <p>3.45pm Motion condemning the use of sexual violence in conflict [Minister of State for Trade and Development] Spokesperson Senator Michael Mullins</p> <p>5pm National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Bill 2012 – Second Stage [Minister for Justice, Equality & Defence] Spokesperson Senator Paul Bradford</p>	<p>10.30pm Order of Business</p> <p>11.45am Transport (Córaslompair Éireann and Subsidiary Companies Borrowings) Bill 2012 – Committee and Remaining Stages [Minister of State for Public and Commuter Transport] Spokesperson Senator Pat O'Neill</p> <p>3.30pm Private Members Business – Employment Permits (Amendment) Bill 2012 [Senator Feargal Quinn] Spokesperson Senator Deirdre Clune</p>	<p>3.30pm Europol Bill 2012 – Second Stage [Minister of State at the Department of Justice, Equality & Defence] Spokesperson Senator Paul Bradford</p>
	<p>November 29</p> <p>10.30pm Order of Business</p> <p>11.45am Personal Insolvency Bill 2012 - Committee Stage [Minister for Justice, Equality & Defence] Spokesperson Senator Paul Bradford</p> <p>13.30pm Motion re. Credit Institutions (Eligible Liabilities Guarantee) (Amendment) Scheme 2012 [Department of Finance] Spokesperson Senator Michael D'Arcy</p>	<p>November 30</p> <p>10am Personal Insolvency Bill 2012 - Committee Stage [Minister for Justice, Equality & Defence]</p>

Committee Meetings

November 27	November 28	November 29
<p>1.30pm Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation 1. Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: (i) Recommendation's contained in the Joint Committees Report entitled A review of Information Communication Technology (ICT) demand in Ireland; and (ii) Skills mismatch between industry requirements and the courses provided by the third level sector [Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation; and Minister for Education and Skills]</p> <p>2pm European Union Affairs Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Planning and priorities for Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the EU in 2013 [Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs]</p> <p>2pm 1. Justice, Defence and Equality Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: 2012 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services – Vote 20 (Garda Síochána); and Vote 22 (Courts Service) [Minister for Justice and Equality]</p> <p>2.30pm Agriculture, Food and the Marine Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Animal Health and Welfare Bill 2012 (resumed) [Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine]</p> <p>3pm 2. Justice, Defence and Equality Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: EU Justice and Home Affairs Pre-Council Meeting [Minister for Justice and Equality] Privileges (Sub-Committee) Room 2, Leinster House 2.30 p.m. AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>4.45pm Transport, Tourism and Sport (Sub-Committee) CR3, LH 2000 (T)(S) AGENDA: 2012 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services - Vote 31 (Transport, Tourism and Sport) [Minister of State at the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, with special responsibility for Public and Commuter Transport]</p> <p>4pm 2. Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: 2012 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services - Vote 32 (Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation) [Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation]</p> <p>4.15pm Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: (i) Engagement with Ms Anna Ní Ghallchoir Uasal, Chairperson Designate, Údarás na Gaeltachta; and (ii) Engagement with Mr. Paddy Mc Guinness, Chairman Designate, Western Development Commission</p> <p>6pm Health (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Health Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2012 [Minister for Health]</p>	<p>9.30am Transport and Communications Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: (i) Engagement with Mr Cormac O'Rourke, Chairman Designate, National Roads Authority (NRA) and the Railway Procurement Agency (RPA); and (ii) Engagement with Mr Brendan Newsome, Chairman Designate, Wicklow Port Company</p> <p>9.45am Justice, Defence and Equality Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: COM(2011)526: Motion re EU Decision on European Refugee Integration and Return Funds (Referral to Committee without Debate) (Department of Justice and Equality) [Minister of State at the Department of Justice and Equality]</p> <p>11.30am Members' Interests of Dáil Éireann Committee Room 1, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>12 noon Administration (Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on Procedure and Privileges) Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Private Meeting</p> <p>1pm Education and Social Protection Committee Room 3, Leinster House AGENDA: Reform of Third Level Education [Higher Education Authority and Department of Education and Skills]</p> <p>2pm Public Expenditure and Reform (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 4, Leinster House AGENDA: 2012 Supplementary Estimates for Public Services - Vote 12 (Superannuation and Retired Allowances)</p>	<p>9.30am Health (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: 2013 Allocations for public expenditure – Health and the Health Service Executive [Minister for Health]</p> <p>11.15am Children and Youth Affairs (Sub-Committee) Committee Room 2, Leinster House AGENDA: 2013 Allocations for public expenditure - Children and Youth Affairs [Minister for Children and Youth Affairs]</p>