

## Oireachtas Update



The Dáil and Committee Meetings are back in session this Wednesday January 14th. The Seanad is not resuming until next week, on Tuesday January 20th.

In the Dáil, the Report and Final Stages of the Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 will be concluded by Thursday. The Second Stage of the Customs Bill 2014 will be reached by Wednesday, with discussions resuming on Thursday as well.

The Joint Committee of Inquiry into the Banking Crisis will hold two private meetings on Wednesday and a public hearing on Thursday where it will hear from Professor Patrick Honohan, Governor of the Central Bank.

On Thursday the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine will be scrutinising a number of EU legislative proposals, as well as price volatility facing the Dairy Industry in Ireland in 2015.

## New Secretary General for Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Aidan O’Driscoll has been appointed the new Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. He is replacing Tom Moran who was 10 years as Secretary General. Mr. O’Driscoll was previously Assistant Secretary in the Department, a position in which he held responsibility for EU Affairs, Economics and Climate Change. In 2013 he steered the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) negotiations.

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Simon Coveney welcomed the appointment, observing that it is a time of change for the agriculture sector in Ireland; ‘This is an exciting time for the agri-food sector with the abolition of quotas in April and prospects presented by new and emerging markets. There are significant opportunities and challenges ahead...’.

Minister Coveney expressed confidence in the new Secretary General.  
‘I am confident that, under his leadership, the Department can capitalise on these opportunities.’

## Goldman Sachs appointed to advise on selling state’s shareholding in AIB

Minister for Finance, Micheal Noonan, has announced the appointment of Goldman Sachs to advise on the selling of the AIB shares the Irish state owns. The state has invested approximately €20bn into AIB, leaving it with 99.8% of the bank’s shares. Today Minister Noonan said he is hopeful the €29.4bn used to bail out AIB, Bank of Ireland and Permanent TSB will be fully recovered in time. He says that recovering the money invested in AIB will be one of the key priorities of the Department of Finance in 2015.

The total cost to the Irish state of bailing out the Irish banks, including Anglo Irish Bank and Irish Nationwide, has been €64.1bn.

## PAI BLOG

*Who is contacting whom about what?* : Read [here](#)

## DAIL

Tuesday January 13th

Wednesday January 14th

Thursday January 15th

*--- Dáil Éireann adjourned ---***2.30 p.m.**

Questions (Minister for Defence)

**3.45 p.m.**

Topical Issues

**4.33 p.m.**

Leaders Questions

**4.54 p.m.**

Order of Business

Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages  
(Department of Public Expenditure and Reform)Customs Bill 2014 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage  
(Department of Finance)**7.30 p.m.**

Private Members Business

**9.00 p.m.**

Dáil Adjourns

**9.30 am**

Questions (Minister for Justice and Equality)

**10.45 a.m.**Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Report and Final Stages  
(Resumed if not previously concluded)  
(Department of Public Expenditure and Reform)**12 noon**

Leaders Questions

**12.21 p.m.**

Order of Business

**12.41 p.m.**

Private Members Business (to conclude within 90 minutes)

Registration of Lobbying Bill 2014 - Report and Final Stages  
(Resumed if not previously concluded)  
(Department of Public Expenditure and Reform)Customs Bill 2014- Second Stage (Resumed)  
(Department of Finance)**4.42 p.m.**

Topical Issues

**5.30 p.m.**

Dáil Adjourns

## SEANAD

Tuesday January 13th

Wednesday January 14th

Thursday January 15th

*--- Adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday 20 January 2015 ---*

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday January 13th

Wednesday January 14th

Thursday January 15th

--- Committee Meetings adjourned ---

10.30 a.m.

**Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint)**

Committee Room 1, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

Session A: 10.30 a.m.

Private Meeting in Committee Room 1, LH 2000; and

Session B: 4 p.m.

Private Meeting in Conference Room, Agriculture House

1 p.m.

**Education and Social Protection (Joint)**

Committee Room 3, Leinster House

**AGENDA:** Jobless Households: An exploration of the Issues [Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU); National Economic and Social Council (NESC); and Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed (INOUE)]

2.30 p.m.

**Foreign Affairs and Trade (Joint)**

Committee Room 1, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

(i) The World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Office for Europe on the topic of Migration and Health - in particular the impact on persons who migrate [Dr. Santino Severoni, Coordinator Public Health and Migration Project, WHO]; and

(ii) The implications of the proposed Association Agreement between the EU and Moldova [Mr. Eric Byrne, T.D.]

2.30 p.m.

**Justice, Defence and Equality (Joint)**

Committee Room 2, Leinster House

**AGENDA:** The Garda Inspectorate Report on Crime Investigation 2014 [Representatives from the Garda Inspectorate]

4 p.m.

**Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform (Joint)**

Committee Room 3, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

Private Meeting

4 p.m.

**Public Service, Oversight and Petitions (Joint)**

Committee Room 4, Leinster House

**(a) 4 p.m. (P)****(b) 4.15 p.m. (T)****AGENDA:**

(a) Private; and

(b) The Role and Remit of the Ombudsman [Mr. Rónán Ó Domhnaill, An Coimisinéir Teanga]

9.30 a.m.

**Health and Children (Joint)**

Committee Room 2, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

Session A: 9.30 a.m.

Developing a National Strategy for Coeliac Disease [Professor Nicholas Kennedy, Honorary President of Coeliac Society of Ireland; Ms. Richelle Flanagan, Dietitian and Board Member of the Irish Nutrition & Dietetic Institute; Dr. Patrick Doorely, former member of the Strategy and Programmes Management Team, HSE; and Ms. Gráinne Denning, CEO of the Coeliac Society of Ireland];

Session B: 11 a.m.

Coping with the challenges of Huntington's Disease [Ms. Patricia Towey, Information and Services Coordinator, Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland; Dr. Niall Pender, Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist, Head of Department, Beaumont Hospital; Dr. Tim Counihan, Consultant Neurologist, University Hospital Galway; Dr. Jennifer Hoblyn, Clinical Director, Bloomfield Health Services; and Ms. Ide Cussen, relative of a patient with Huntington's Disease]; and

Session C: 12.30 p.m.

Emergency Department Services [Minister for Health; and Mr. Tony O'Brien, Director General, Health Service Executive]

9.30 a.m.

**Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint)**

Committee Room 3, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

Public Hearing [Professor Patrick Honohan, on the report to the Minister for Finance by the Governor of the Central Bank, The Irish Banking Crisis Regulatory and Financial Stability Policy 2003-2008]

10 a.m.

**Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)**

Committee Room 1, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

(i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:

Schedule B: COM(2014)593; COM(2014)628; COM(2014)629; COM(2014)682; COM(2014)683; COM(2014)684; and

(ii) Potential difficulties and price volatility facing the Dairy Industry in 2015 [Representatives from Irish Dairy Board]

10.15 a.m.

**Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement (Joint)**

Committee Room 4, Leinster House

**AGENDA:**

Cross Border theatre projects [Smashing Times Theatre Company]



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