

## Oireachtas Report



Dáil Éireann is meeting on Tuesday January 20th, to discuss statements on Northern Ireland and the Stormont House agreement. On Wednesday January 21st, the lower chamber will consider the Draft Order for the Commission of the Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes. While on Thursday, the Report Stage of the Workplace Relations Bill will resume, as well as the Second Stage of the Garda Síochána (Amendment) (No.3) Bill. On its return, following the Christmas adjournment, Seanad Éireann will review commencement matters. Issues to be evaluated over the course of the week include: The Gender Recognition Bill; Statements on Appointments to State Boards and Statements on Improving the Quality of Early Years Education. On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht, the Planning and Development Bill 2014 will be under scrutiny. While on Wednesday, there will be a public hearing on the Inquiry into the Banking Crisis, reflecting of the sources of Ireland's Banking.

## Revenue collects €41.28bn in 2014

Preliminary results Tax returns for 2014, indicate a considerable increase on the previous year. Initial data suggests a total tax take of €41.28bn. The overall figure for 2013 was €37.8bn.

The increased tax returns include a 95 per cent compliance rate in payments for Local Property Taxes, which amounted to €452m. The returns for 2015, already show LPT payments of €39m.

The revenue has welcomed the improved figures. The commissioner expressed that they are indicative of improved economic activity in the wider economy. "There is evidence of increased customer numbers across all taxes. In addition, uptake of the home renovation incentive, which was introduced to support fully tax compliant builders and to move building activity out of the shadow economy and into the legitimate economy, is an encouraging indicator of improving levels of activity and compliance within the construction sector."

## New Secretary General at Department of Children and Youth Affairs

Dr. Fergal Lynch has been announced as the new Secretary General at the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. His appointment was made by Government at last Wednesday's Cabinet Meeting. He replaces Jim Breslin who has been in the Secretary General position since June 2011. Dr. Lynch has been deputy secretary general of the Department of Health since 2012, where he headed the division focused on insurance and health service structural reform.

## PAI BLOG

PAI Directory- The Editor's introduction: Read [here](#)

## DAIL

Tuesday January 20th	Wednesday January 21st	Thursday January 22nd
<p><b>2 p.m.</b> Questions (Minister for Children and Youth Affairs)</p> <p><b>3.15 p.m.</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>3.36pm</b> Questions (Taoiseach)</p> <p><b>4.36 p.m.</b> Order of Business</p> <p>Statements on Northern Ireland and the Stormont House Agreement (to conclude within 2 hours)</p> <p>Topical Issues</p> <p><b>8 p.m.</b> Private Members Business</p> <p><b>9:30 p.m. approx</b> Dáil adjourns</p>	<p><b>9.30 a.m.</b> Questions (Minister for Health)</p> <p><b>10.45 a.m.</b> Motion re Draft Order for the Commission of the Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes (Department of Children and Youth Affairs)</p> <p><b>12 noon</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>12.21 p.m.</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>12.51 p.m.</b> SOS</p> <p><b>1.51 p.m.</b> Topical Issues</p> <p><b>2.39 p.m.</b> Motion re Draft Order for the Commission of the Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes (to conclude at 5.30pm if not previously concluded) (Department of Children and Youth Affairs)</p> <p><b>5.30 p.m.</b> Workplace Relations Bill 2014- Report Stage Resumed (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)</p> <p><b>7:30 p.m.</b> Private Members Business</p> <p><b>9 p.m.</b> Dáil adjourns</p>	<p><b>9.30 a.m.</b> Questions (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade)</p> <p><b>10:45 a.m.</b> Workplace Relations Bill 2014- Report Stage (Resumed if not previously concluded) (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)</p> <p>Garda Síochána (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill- Second Stage Resumed (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p><b>12 noon</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>12.21 p.m.</b> Order of Business</p> <p>Workplace Relations Bill 2014 - Report Stage Resumed (Department of Jobs Enterprise and Innovation)</p> <p>Garda Síochána (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill - Second Stage Resumed (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p>Vehicle Clamping Bill 2014 (Seanad) - Second Stage (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)</p> <p><b>4.42 p.m.</b> Topical Issues</p> <p><b>5.30 p.m.</b> Dáil Adjourns</p>

## SEANAD

Tuesday January 20th	Wednesday January 21st	Thursday January 22nd
<p><b>2.30 p.m.</b> Commencement Matters</p> <p><b>3.30 p.m.</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>4.45 pm</b> Statements on the HSE National Service Plan 2015 (Minister for Health)</p> <p>Private Members Business</p> <p><b>9:30 p.m. approx</b> Dáil adjourns</p>	<p><b>10.30 a.m.</b> Commencement Matters</p> <p><b>12 noon</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>1.15 p.m.</b> Gender Recognition Bill 2014 – Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Social Protection)</p> <p><b>3.00 p.m.</b> Statements on Improving the Quality of Early Years Education (Minister for Education)</p> <p><b>5. p.m.</b> Private Members Business- Motion re. Water Services (Fianna Fáil Senators)</p>	<p><b>10.30 a.m.</b> Commencement Matters</p> <p><b>12 noon</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>1.15 p.m.</b> Statements on Appointments to State Boards (Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform)</p> <p><b>2.45 p.m.</b> Statements on Direct Provision (Minister of State with responsibility for New Communities, Culture and Equality)</p> <p><b>4.15 p.m</b> Central Bank (Amendment) Bill 2014 – All Stages (Department of Finance)</p>



## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday January 20th

**2. p.m.****Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)**  
CR3, LH 2000 (T)**AGENDA:**

Ireland's Submission to the European Commission on Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 [Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine]

**2. p.m.****European Union Affairs (Joint) CR1, LH 2000****AGENDA:**

Latvia's Presidency Priorities [His Excellency Mr. Gints Apals, Ambassador of Latvia to Ireland]

**2:15 p.m.****Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht (Joint)**

CR4, LH 2000 (T)

**AGENDA:**

Pre Legislative Scrutiny on the General Scheme of the Planning and Development (No.1) Bill 2014 [Representatives from the Construction Industry Federation; Planning Institute; and Housing Agency]

Wednesday January 21st

9:30

a.m.

**Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint)**  
**CR1, LH 2000.****AGENDA:**

Session A: 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

Public Hearing [Mr. Klaus Regling on the report A Preliminary Report on The Sources of Ireland's Banking Crisis]; and

Session B: 11.45 a.m. - 1.45 p.m.

Public Hearing [Professor Philip Lane on the Irish Banking Crisis and the Economic and Monetary Union]

**10 a.m.****Justice, Defence and Equality (Joint)**

CR2, LH 2000

**AGENDA:**

Hearings on submissions received in relation to the review of firearms licensing

**Session A: 10 a.m.**

[Mr. Nicholas Flood; Mr. KJE Balinski-Jvndzill; Representatives from the Wild Deer Association of Ireland; Harbour House Sports Club; National Target Shooting Association; and National Association of Regional Game Councils (NARGC)];

**Session B: 2.30 p.m.**

[Mr. Phillip Slattery; Mr. Mark Dennehy; Mr. Jeff McCann; Dr. Albert Jordan; Representatives from the Irish Firearms Dealers Association; National Rifle Association of Ireland; and National Association of Sporting, Rifle and Pistol Club]

**1 p.m.****Education and Social Protection (Joint)**

CR3, LH 2000

**AGENDA:**

The impact of social protection payments on income distribution [Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI); Think-tank for Action and Social Change (TASC); Professor John Fitzgerald; and Publicpolicy.ie]

**2.30 p.m.****Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform (Joint)**

CR4, LH 2000

**AGENDA:****Session A: 2.30 p.m.**

Operations and functioning of the Office of Government Procurement [Mr. Paul Quinn, Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Government Procurement (OGP)]; and

**4:15 p.m.****Session B**

The financial aspects of Annual Growth Survey 2015; Alert Mechanism Report 2015; and An Investment Plan for Europe [Officials from the Department of Finance]

**2:30 p.m.****Foreign Affairs and Trade (Select)**

CR1, LH 2000

**AGENDA:**

Motion re. the Association Agreements between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States of the one part, and Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, of the other part [Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade]

**4 p.m****Public Service, Oversight and Petitions (Joint) CR3, LH 2000****AGENDA:**

Equality and fairness regarding the raising of the State

Thursday January 22nd

**9:30 a.m.****Health and Children (Joint)**

CR2, LH 2000

**AGENDA:****Session A: 9.30 a.m.**

The challenge of rising costs of professional medical indemnity insurance [Mr. Martin Varley, Secretary General, Irish Hospital Consultants Association; Ms. Susan Clyne, Irish Medical Organisation; Mr. Ciaran Breen, Director, State Claims Agency; and Mr. Simon Kayll, Chief Executive, Medical Protection Society]; and

**Session B: 11.30 a.m.**

EU Commission priorities and Irish Health and Food Safety matters [Mr. Vytenis Andriukaitis, EU Commissioner for Health and Food Safety]

**9:30 a.m.****Inquiry into the Banking Crisis (Joint)**

CR3, LH 2000

**AGENDA:**

Private Meeting

**10: a.m.****Public Accounts**

CR1, LH 2000

**AGENDA:**

(i) Business of the Committee; and

(ii) a. Higher Education Authority Financial Statements 2013; and

b. Comptroller and Auditor General Special Report No 85: Accountability and Governance at the National College of Art and Design [Officials from the Higher Education Authority; the Department of Education and Skills; and the National College of Art and Design]



# PAI

Public Affairs Ireland

## DIRECTORY OF GOVERNMENT AND STATE AGENCIES

### 8TH EDITION

*A convenient one-stop reference*

- Information and contact details on all Government departments and over 200 state agencies
- Structure and role of each civil service department and its agencies
- Available in both hard copy and online
- Completely up-to-date for 2015

PAI SUBSCRIBER PRICE (INCL.VAT)

€29.95

NON-SUBSCRIBER PRICE (INCL.VAT)

€34.95



Available now

ORDER ONLINE AT [PUBLICAFFAIRSIRELAND.COM](http://PUBLICAFFAIRSIRELAND.COM)  
OR CALL (01) 8198500