



An Bille um Chuntasacht Rialtais Áitiúil, 2018
Local Government Accountability Bill 2018

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



AN BILLE UM CHUNTASACHT RIALTAIS ÁITIÚIL, 2018
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BILL 2018

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated

CONTENTS

Section

1. Interpretation
2. Regulations
3. Guidelines
4. League Table
5. Short title and commencement



AN BILLE UM CHUNTASACHT RIALTAIS ÁITIÚIL, 2018
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BILL 2018

Bill

entitled

An Act to provide for better replies and response times from local authority officials to local representative queries. 5

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

Interpretation

1. In this Act—

“local authority means— 10

(a) a county council,

(b) a city council,

(c) a town council;

“member”, in relation to a local authority, includes a Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach; 15

“Minister” means the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government.

Regulations

2. (1) The Minister may make regulations—

(a) prescribing any matter which is referred to in this Act as prescribed or to be prescribed, or 20

(b) for the purposes of enabling any provision of this Act to have full effect.

(2) Every regulation or order made by the Minister shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as practicable after they are made and, if a resolution annulling the regulation, order or rules is passed by either House within the next subsequent 21 days on which that House has sat after the regulation, order or rules are laid before it, the regulation, order or rules shall be annulled accordingly, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder. 25

(3) Regulations made under this Act may—

(a) include such consequential, incidental, transitional or supplementary provisions as may be considered by the Minister, as the case may be, to be necessary or 30

appropriate for the purposes of this Act, and

- (b) apply, either generally or by reference, to a specified class or classes of persons or category or categories of licensees or to any other matter as may be considered by the Minister to be appropriate.

Guidelines

5

- 3. (1) The Minister shall issue guidelines for the purpose of providing practical guidance to local authorities in respect of replies to local authority member queries.
- (2) The Minister shall publish guidelines issued under *subsection (1)* in such manner (including on the internet) as he or she considers appropriate.
- (3) The aim of these guidelines should be to— 10
 - (a) provide consistency in response times across the entire local government system for all local authority members,
 - (b) encourage the introduction of a binding obligation on local authority officials to issue an acknowledgement to the local authority member within 7 working days, and 15
 - (c) extend a binding obligation to issue a full and comprehensive response within 14 days to local authority member representations submitted on behalf of constituents.

League Table

- 4. (1) The Minister shall regularly collect data from every local authority on how replies to local authority members are delivered. 20
- (2) The Minister, on receipt of that data, shall publish quarterly league tables on response times for each local authority to local authority members' queries.

Short title and commencement

- 5. (1) This Act may be cited as the Local Government Accountability Act 2018. 25
- (2) This Act comes into operation on such day or days as, by order or orders made by the Minister, may be fixed therefor, either generally or with reference to any particular purpose or provision and different days may be so fixed for different purposes and different provisions.

An Bille um Chuntasacht Rialtais Áitiúil,
2018

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le freagraí níos fearr ó oifigigh údaráis áitiúil agus agaí freagartha níos fearr ag oifigigh údaráis áitiúil i ndáil le ceisteanna ó ionadaithe áitiúla.

Na Seanadóirí Brian Ó Domhnaill, Diarmuid Mac Liam, Victor Boyhan agus Gearóid Ó Creachmhaoil a thug isteach,

1 Bealtaine, 2018

Local Government Accountability Bill 2018

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

An Act to provide for better replies and response times from local authority officials to local representative queries.

Introduced by Senators Brian Ó Domhnaill, Diarmuid Wilson, Victor Boyhan and Gerard P. Craughwell,

1st May, 2018

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
ARNA FHOILSIÚ AG OIFIG AN tSOLÁTHAIR
Le ceannach díreach ó
FOILSEACHÁIN RIALTAIS,
52 FAICHE STIABHNA, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2.
(Teil: 01 - 6476834 nó 1890 213434; Fax: 01 - 6476843)
nó trí aon díoltóir leabhar.

DUBLIN
PUBLISHED BY THE STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased from
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS,
52 ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN 2.
(Tel: 01 - 6476834 or 1890 213434; Fax: 01 - 6476843)
or through any bookseller.

€1.27

ISBN 978-1-4468-6183-7



9 781446 861837