



DÁIL ÉIREANN

BILLE NA dTEANGACHA OIFIGIÚLA (LEASÚ), 2019 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2019

LEASUITHE TUARASCÁLA REPORT AMENDMENTS

(Imleabhar 2 - Béarla)

(Volume 2 - English)

DÁIL ÉIREANN

BILLE NA dTEANGACHA OIFIGIÚLA (LEASÚ), 2019 —AN TUARASCÁIL

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2019 —REPORT

Leasuithe Amendments

1. In page 6, line 4, after “2003” to insert the following:

“, in order to promote the use of the Irish language as a vernacular language in every aspect of Irish life; to ensure an effective percentage of employees in the public service and recruits to the public service capable of performing their duties bilingually; to provide additional powers to the *Coimisinéir Teanga*; to set down language standards; to ensure that any person has the right to use the Irish language version of their name and address; to ensure that services through the medium of the Irish language are available to the Irish-speaking community and to the Gaeltacht community”.

—Catherine Connolly.

2. In page 6, between lines 21 and 22, to insert the following:

“(c) by the substitution of the following definition for the definition of “court”:

“ ‘court’ means any tribunal of a public body empowered by law to determine the rights and liabilities of the parties before it;”,

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

3. In page 6, between lines 24 and 25, to insert the following:

“ ‘competence’, in the context of the Irish language in this Act, and in any other legislation, means level B1 fluency or higher on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages;”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

4. In page 8, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“ ‘official form’ means a form, including an electronic form, used by a public body in connection with the provision of a service by that body;”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

5. In page 8, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“ ‘official form’ means any form, including a hard copy form and an

online form, created by a public body, or on its behalf, which is to be completed by, or on behalf of, a person, including a legal person not being an emanation of the State;”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

6. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 3 of Principal Act

3. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of “(1)” before “The expenses” and the insertion of the following after “provided by the Oireachtas”:

“or in accordance with a penalty imposed in the case of a breach of statutory language duties, in accordance with subsection (2).

(2) (a) Where a public body or any relevant party fails or refuses or neglects to comply with any provision of this Act or any provision of regulations made pursuant to this Act or provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language, the High Court may by order, on application by the Commissioner, or the Minister or any other person, whether or not such person has a specific interest in any such failure, refusal or neglect, require any public body or party, to do or refrain from doing, or cease from doing, as the case may be, anything to comply with any provision of this Act or any provision of regulations made pursuant to this Act or provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language as the Court considers necessary and as it may specify in the order, including a penalty not exceeding €10,000 to be paid to the Minister for Finance, to be kept in the Irish Language Sub-Fund.

(b) An application to the High Court for an order under this section shall be by motion and the Court, when considering the matter, may make such interim or interlocutory order (if any) as it considers appropriate.

(3) The Minister may use the monies collected in the Irish Language Sub-Fund established in accordance with *subsection (2)(a)* to meet the expenses in accordance with subsection (1) or may distribute them by way of a grant to a particular project selected by Foras na Gaeilge for the promotion of the Irish language from applications received from the public.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

7. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 3 of Principal Act

3. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of “(1)” before “The expenses” and the insertion of the following subsection after “provided by the Oireachtas.”:

“(2) In order to protect the use and status of the Irish language in the State, in the case of the total expenditure allocated by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media as funding to the two public broadcasting bodies mentioned in subparagraph 1(2) of the First Schedule to this Act to which the Broadcasting Act 2009 applies, no more than three times the total expenditure allocated to Teilifís na Gaeilge shall be allocated by him or her to Raidió Teilifís Éireann per year from 31 December 2025.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

8. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 3 of Principal Act

3. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after “provided by the Oireachtas.”:

“(2) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee and An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out the possibilities relating to the establishment and implementation of a system of penalties in order to impose a fine on public bodies that contravene their statutory language duties under this Act and other enactments, to defray the above-mentioned expenses or to fund the promotion of the Irish language.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

9. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 3 of Principal Act

3. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after “provided by the Oireachtas.”:

“(2) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Minister for Finance, Foras na Gaeilge, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and not later than 6 months after the coming into operation of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 2021, prepare, issue and submit to each House of the Oireachtas a report on the possibilities which exist to develop and use a Cultural Health Index, based on the New Zealand model, as a measure to assess and centralise the wellbeing of and public participation in cultural life, and in particular in the life of the national language, among the economic indicators used by government and to ensure regard for the promotion of the Irish language and widespread access to culture as national objectives in budgetary policies.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

10. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 4 of Principal Act

3. Section 4(1) of the Principal Act is amended by the deletion of “, with the consent of the Minister for Finance”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

11. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 4 of Principal Act

3. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) (a) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee and An Coimisinéir Teanga, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented to ensure that private companies, as established in accordance with the Companies Acts, particularly those employing 250 or more people, have the same duty that may be imposed on public bodies in accordance with this Act.

(b) The report mentioned in paragraph (a) shall have regard to the objective of implementing the recommendations on 31 December 2030 as to any particular duties under this Act relating to functioning in a Gaeltacht area, or providing a service in a Gaeltacht area, and on 31 December 2035 in the case of all other duties.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

12. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 4 of Principal Act

3. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) (a) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee and An Coimisinéir Teanga, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented to ensure that each of the following bodies is covered under the First Schedule, and that this Act shall apply to newly established bodies falling within the following definitions, without the need to prescribe each one individually by regulations after their establishment:

(i) all Government Departments and all offices or organisations

established in the Constitution of Ireland;

- (ii) all agencies, boards and state companies (commercial and non-commercial);
- (iii) a local authority;
- (iv) a health board and the Health Service Executive;
- (v) retail banks under the control of the Central Bank of Ireland;
- (vi) all bodies, organisations or groups which receive moneys directly from a Minister of the Government, a Department of State, the Central Fund or other public body in circumstances where the amount or aggregate of the amounts so received constitutes 50 per cent or more of the current expenditure of that body, organisation or group in a financial year, or in which the majority of the shares are held by or on behalf of a Minister of the Government;
- (vii) any body, organisation or group that at the date of the coming into operation of this Schedule is a public body but subsequently comes under private ownership and control;
- (viii) any body, organisation or group performing functions which previously stood vested by law in a body, organisation or group under public ownership or control;
- (ix) any other body, organisation or group on which functions in relation to the general public or a class of the general public stand conferred or permitted by any enactment or any public service obligation contracts or by any licence or authority given under any enactment, insofar as it relates to the performance of those particular functions.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

13. In page 8, between lines 4 and 5, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 4 of Principal Act

3. Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) (a) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee and An Coimisinéir Teanga, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented so that it shall be the duty of any public body or private company established in accordance with the Companies Acts, which provides an interactive assistance machine or device to the public or to consumers in any business or any public place in the State, to ensure that any interactive service on that machine or

device caters for people in at least the two official languages.

- (b) The recommendations in the report shall have regard to the objective of this provision applying to any new machine or device provided from 31 December 2025 or, where there is an update or renewal of interactive services on old machines or devices, after that date.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

14. In page 8, to delete lines 5 to 15 and substitute the following:

“Amendment of Principal Act - insertion of sections 4A and 4B

3. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following sections after section 4:

“Appointment of head of public body

- 4A. (1) Where for the time being no person stands appointed as the principal officer of a public body, the Government may by order designate a person to be head of the public body for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) Every order under subsection (1) shall be laid before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made and, if a resolution annulling the order is passed by either such House within the next 21 days on which that House sits after the order is laid before it, the order shall be annulled accordingly, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.

Report on performance of obligations under Act

4B. The head of a public body shall—

- (a) appoint another member of staff of the body to oversee the performance of, and report to him or her as appropriate in relation to, the obligations of the body under this Act, and
- (b) ensure that a summary of any of the matters reported to him or her in accordance with paragraph (a) is included in the annual report of the body concerned.”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

15. In page 8, line 8, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

16. In page 8, line 8, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Catherine Connolly.

17. In page 8, line 9, after “person”, to insert the following:

“, within 3 months of the date on which the vacancy occurred in the position of principal officer of the public body,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

18. In page 8, between lines 9 and 10, to insert the following:

“(1A) This provision shall come into operation on and from the date the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021* comes into operation, notwithstanding any other enactments.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

19. In page 8, line 11, to delete “as soon as may be after it is made” and substitute the following:

“, within 28 days of the date on which the vacancy occurred in the position of principal officer of the public body”.

—Catherine Connolly.

20. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“(3) (a) Each head of a public body shall appoint and designate a person from his or her senior management team, being a person having a role in the executive or management of the body, to be responsible for the implementation of the provisions of the Official Languages Acts in that body, so far as they relate to that body, and to discharge any other statutory duties in respect of an official language.

(b) Such person shall provide to the head, every six months at least, a report in writing describing the progress that has been made and is being made at the time of the writing of such report. The head of the public body shall publish each report on the website of the public body as soon as possible, but no later than one month from the date he or she receives it.

(c) The member of staff designated under paragraph (a) of this subsection shall, after consulting with the Advisory Committee, designate positions in the body to which conditions relating to language competence shall be attached, in particular in order to discharge statutory duties of the body as regards standards.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

21. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (2):

“(2) Where a person communicates in writing, by electronic mail or through social media in an official language with a public body, the public body shall reply in the same language.”,

and

(b) by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (3):

“(3) Where a public body communicates in writing or by electronic mail with the general public or a class of the general public for the purpose of furnishing information to the public or the class or for the purpose of the marketing of the public body or its services to the public or the class, the body shall ensure that the communication is in the Irish language or in the English and Irish languages.”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

22. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Irish Language Charter

4. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new Part after Part 1 (Preliminary and General):

“PART 1A

IRISH LANGUAGE CHARTER

Preparation of a Charter for the Irish language

5. (1) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Irish-speaking community and *Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla* regarding the needs of the public, and no later than one year after the enactment of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a draft Charter, to be known as the Irish Language Charter, based on the model of the Charter of the French Language, or the *Charte de la langue française* in the French language, in Québec in Canada, which shall clarify and strengthen on a statutory basis the basic language rights of Irish speakers in the State, with the consent of the Houses of the Oireachtas.
- (2) The draft Charter mentioned in subsection (1) shall specify:
- (a) a timetable with deadlines by which the Government intend to have the different provisions of the Charter implemented in full;
 - (b) a recommendation in respect of a right for every person to receive communications in the Irish language from the following bodies:
 - (i) civil administration bodies;
 - (ii) health and social services bodies;
 - (iii) public utility companies;
 - (iv) State companies;
 - (v) State-funded organisations;
 - (vi) professional corporations;
 - (vii) trade unions; and

- (viii) every company which transacts business in the Gaeltacht;
- (c) a recommendation in respect of a right for every person to speak the Irish language in any public assembly;
- (d) a recommendation in respect of a right for workers in the Gaeltacht to conduct their work through the medium of the Irish language;
- (e) a recommendation in respect of a right for consumers of goods and services in the Gaeltacht to be informed and to be served in the Irish language;
- (f) a recommendation in respect of a right for every person who is entitled to receive an education in the State to receive that education through the medium of the Irish language;
- (g) a recommendation in respect of the duty of the State to do all within its range of activity to establish and preserve the Irish language, as the first official language, in its status as the national language and to recognise it as the national language for all official purposes.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

23. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Irish Language Charter

4. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new Part after Part 1 (Preliminary and General):

“PART 1A

IRISH LANGUAGE CHARTER

National Language and First Official Language of Ireland

5. (1) The Irish language is the national language of Ireland.
(2) The Irish language is the first official language of Ireland.

Fundamental Language Rights

6. (1) Every person shall have the right to receive communications in the Irish language from the following bodies; civil administration, the health and social services, the public utility companies, State companies, the State-funded organisations, the organisations funded by the European Union, the professional corporations, the trade unions, and every company which transacts business in the Gaeltacht.
(2) In any public assembly, every person shall have the right to speak in Irish.
(3) Workers in the Gaeltacht shall have the right to conduct their work

through the medium of the Irish language.

- (4) Consumers of goods and services in the Gaeltacht shall have the right to be informed and to be served in the Irish language.
- (5) Every person who is entitled to receive an education in the State shall have the right to receive that education through the medium of the Irish language.

Duties of the State

- 7. The Irish language being the first official language, it shall be the duty of the State to do all within its range of activity to establish and preserve it in its status as the national language and to recognise it as the national language for all official purposes.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

- 24. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 5 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of “, and shall submit it to such joint committee of the Houses of the Oireachtas as discusses policy matters relating to the Irish language, the Gaeltacht, the islands and the Irish-speaking community,” after “each House of the Oireachtas”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

- 25. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 5 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution of “(1) In each year” for “In each year” and the insertion of the following after “of this Act.”:

“(2) The Minister shall, in consultation with the Central Statistics Office, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to each House of the Oireachtas a report, in the interests of ensuring a research-based foundation for State policies in respect of the official languages, setting out practical recommendations with a view to establishing a permanent sociolinguistic statistics section consisting of people who have particular expertise in sociolinguistics and proficiency in the Irish language, in order to:

- (a) coordinate continuous study on the sociolinguistic case of the Irish language in the State and, in particular, the sociolinguistic case of the Gaeltacht;
- (b) scrutinise the influence of any Bill or policy recommended by the Government, as the Chief Sociolinguist thinks appropriate, on the sociolinguistics of the State and of the Gaeltacht;

- (c) organise a comprehensive linguistic study in conjunction with experts and third level institutions on a regular basis, every five or ten years, and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas recommendations on the basis of that study in a report.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

26. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by the substitution of “Every person” for “A member of either House of the Oireachtas”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

27. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended, in subsection (1), by the substitution of “The Irish and English languages are the official languages of the Houses of the Oireachtas, and a member” for “A member”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

28. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by the substitution of “of the Houses of the Oireachtas or of any committee established by the Houses of the Oireachtas” for “in that House or of a committee of either House, a joint committee of both Houses or sub-committee of such a committee or joint committee”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

29. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) Members of both Houses shall agree an annual Irish language scheme every year from the coming into operation of this Act, setting out practical recommendations and a recruitment timescale towards the following objectives:

- (a) the provision of simultaneous or consecutive interpreting of debates and of any other proceedings of the Houses of the Oireachtas for members and for the public from one official language to the other official language;

- (b) the provision of all support and administrative services, provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas to their members for the carrying out of their work or to the public, through the Irish language or through both the Irish and English languages;
- (c) the prominence in all physical and virtual settings of the Houses of the Oireachtas of the status of the Irish language as the first official language;
- (d) that all members of both Houses be able to transact all of their business in the Houses of the Oireachtas in either of the two official languages by 31 December 2030; and
- (e) such other objectives regarding the Irish language that the members agree to promote.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

30. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4.** Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) (a) There shall be caused to be made available such appropriate facilities as to enable simultaneous or consecutive interpreting of debates and of any other proceedings of the Houses of the Oireachtas to be performed from one official language to the other official language.

(b) This subsection shall come into operation on 1 January 2026.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

31. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 6 of Principal Act

- 4.** Section 6 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) (a) All support services made available by the Houses of the Oireachtas to their members for the carrying out of their work or to the public shall be made available through the Irish language or through both the Irish and English languages.

(b) This subsection shall come into operation on 1 January 2026.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

32. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. The Principal Act is amended by the substitution of the following section for section 7:

7. (1) Every Bill and every Act of the Oireachtas shall be enacted, printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (2) The Order Paper and Official Report for each House of the Oireachtas and the *Iris Oifigiúil* shall be printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (3) Every Statutory Instrument to which the Statutory Instruments Act 1947 relates shall be made, printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (4) The Government shall take all possible measures to ensure that any treaty or convention between Ireland and another state or states is authenticated in each of the official languages.
- (5) This section shall come into operation on 1 January 2025.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall prevent the enactment, printing or publishing of a Bill or Act in each of the official languages simultaneously, the printing or publication of the Order Paper of any House of the Oireachtas or the *Iris Oifigiúil* in each of the official languages simultaneously, the making, printing or publication of a statutory instrument in each of the official languages simultaneously nor the authentication of a treaty or convention in each of the official languages.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

33. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “simultaneously.”:

- “(a) as soon as may be after the making of a statutory instrument to which the Statutory Instruments Act 1947 applies, it shall be printed and published simultaneously in each of the official languages.
- (b) nothing in this section shall prevent the making, printing or publishing of a statutory instrument in each of the official languages simultaneously.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

34. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “simultaneously.”:

“(a) the Minister shall, having done research into the arrears of the Acts that have theretofore only been printed and published in one of the two official languages, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out a time scale for the clearance of the arrears as soon as possible and practical recommendations for working towards the enactment, printing and publishing of all Bills and Acts of the Oireachtas in each of the official languages.

(b) nothing in this section shall prevent the enactment, printing or publishing of a Bill or Act in each of the official languages simultaneously.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

35. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “simultaneously.”:

(a) as soon as may be practicable after the making of a statutory instrument to which the Statutory Instruments Act 1947 applies, it shall be printed and published simultaneously in each of the official languages.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prevent the making, printing or publishing of a statutory instrument in each of the official languages simultaneously.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

36. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “simultaneously.”:

(a) the Government shall take all practicable steps to ensure that any treaty or convention between Ireland and another state or other states, including a coalition or alliance of states, whether on a bilateral or multilateral basis, is authenticated in each of the official

languages.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

37. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Use of the Official Languages in Government

4. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 7:

“Use of the Official Languages in Government

- 7A. The Minister shall prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, a report setting out a timescale and practical recommendations towards simultaneous or consecutive interpreting of any official proceedings or of any official oral statements of the Government being performed from one official language to the other official language for the benefit of those listening.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

38. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Use of the Official Languages in Government

4. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 7:

“Use of the Official Languages in Government

- 7A. There shall be caused to be made available such facilities as are appropriate so as to enable simultaneous or consecutive interpreting of any official proceedings or of any official oral statements of the Government to be performed from one official language to the other official language for the benefit of those listening.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

39. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (3) by the substitution of “must” for “may”.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

40. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsections after subsection (3):

“(3A) It shall be the duty of every court, other than the Supreme Court sitting as a full Court with each judge thereof sitting, in any civil proceedings before it, to ensure that—

- (a) where Irish is the language which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, each judge or other officer hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in Irish without the assistance of an interpreter,
- (b) where English is the language which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, each judge or other officer hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in English without the assistance of an interpreter, and
- (c) where both Irish and English are the languages which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, each judge or other officer hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in both English and Irish without the assistance of an interpreter.

(3B) It shall be the duty of every criminal court, other than the Supreme Court sitting as a full Court with each judge thereof sitting, in any trial or appeal before it, to ensure that—

- (a) where Irish is the language which the accused has chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, each judge hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in Irish without the assistance of an interpreter, and
- (b) where English is the language which the accused has chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, each judge hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in English without the assistance of an interpreter.

(3C) The provisions of subsections (3A) and (3B) shall come into operation on 1 January 2026 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

41. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (4):

“(4A) (a) A criminal prosecution shall be conducted in the official language which the accused has chosen to use in the proceedings and if

necessary separate trials shall be conducted in the case of persons jointly accused in order to enforce this right.

- (b) Where an accused person does not choose a particular official language to be used in the proceedings the prosecutor shall use in the proceedings such official language as appears to him to be reasonable, having regard to the circumstances.
- (c) The judge before whom the accused first appears must inform him or her of this right.
- (d) The provisions set out in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) shall come into operation on 1 January 2026 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

42. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) It shall be the duty of every court in any proceedings before it to ensure that—

- (a) where Irish is the language which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case, every judgment and court document shall be given in Irish, and every order in the cause shall be drafted in Irish,
 - (b) where English is the language which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case that every judgment and court document shall be given in English, and that every order in the cause shall be drafted in English, and
 - (c) where both Irish and English are the languages which the parties have chosen to use in the proceedings before it in any particular case that every judgment and court document shall be given in both Irish and English, and that every order in the cause shall be drafted in both Irish and English.
- (8) The provisions set out in subsection (7) shall come into operation on 1 January 2026, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

43. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection

after subsection (6):

“(7) (a) In the case of a sitting of court within the Gaeltacht, the proceedings shall be conducted through the medium of Irish without prejudice to the rights of any party or witness to use the language of his or her choice subject to the preceding provisions.

(b) This provision shall come into operation on 1 January 2026, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

44. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) (a) In the case of a district of the District Court or a circuit of the Circuit Court containing a Gaeltacht area, one sitting of the District Court and one sitting of the Circuit Court shall be held in that area at least annually. At least one sitting of the District Court and at least one sitting of the Circuit Court shall be held per legal term in the Donegal Gaeltacht, in the Connemara Gaeltacht and in the Corca Dhuibhne Gaeltacht.

(b) This provision shall come into operation on 1 January 2026, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

45. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8(1) of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “court”:

“or in any public assembly, workplace or social context in the State, other than assemblies, workplaces or contexts in which Irish language monolingualism is advertised, and no court, public assembly, employer or second person may prevent a person from speaking or writing the Irish language or expressing or writing the Irish language version of an Irish placename, except in workplaces in particular cases on particular occasions where the employer can prove objectively that it is necessary to prohibit the speaking or writing of the Irish language in order to carry out the business of the employer”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

46. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(1A) The Minister shall, after consultation with An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas setting out the possibilities relating to extending the protection of the right of a person to speak the Irish language in any court in accordance with subsection (1) beyond the court context so that there will be protection of the right of everyone to communicate through the medium of Irish in any place in the State, and relating to the implementation of a system of penalties for those who contravene that right, based on the Welsh Language Measure model in Wales.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

47. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(3A) Where Irish or English is the language chosen by the parties or the accused to use in the proceedings before any court, other than the Supreme Court sitting as a full Court with each judge thereof sitting, in any trial, appeal or civil proceeding before it, each judge or other officer hearing such proceedings shall have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in such chosen language without the assistance of an interpreter.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

48. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (4):

“(4A) (a) Every accused person has the right to choose the official language in which a criminal prosecution is brought.

(b) Separate trials shall be conducted in the case of persons jointly accused who do not chose the same official language in accordance with paragraph (a).

- (c) Where an accused person does not choose a particular official language to be used in the proceedings, the prosecutor shall use in the proceedings such official language as appears to him or her to be reasonable, having regard to the circumstances.
- (d) The judge before whom the accused first appears must inform him or her of the right specified in paragraph (a) in the two official languages.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

49. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) The Courts Service shall prepare, publish and submit to the Minister and the Houses of the Oireachtas, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, setting out recommendations on how to achieve the following objectives and a timetable for the progress that would be required in order to achieve those objectives before 1 January 2030:

- (a) that every judgment and court document be given, and every order in the case be drafted, in the official language or in both official languages as chosen by the parties to use in proceedings in any particular case;
- (b) that, in the case of a sitting of court within the Gaeltacht, the proceedings shall be conducted through the medium of the Irish language without prejudice to the rights of any party or witness to use his or her choice of language subject to the foregoing provisions;
- (c) that one sitting of the District Court and one sitting of the Circuit Court be held in that area at least annually in the case of a district of the District Court or a circuit of the Circuit Court containing a Gaeltacht area; and
- (d) that at least one sitting of the District Court and at least one sitting of the Circuit Court be held per legal term in the Donegal Gaeltacht, the Galway Gaeltacht and the Kerry Gaeltacht.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

50. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

- “(7) (a) In this subsection, ‘Act of 1961’ means the Courts (Supplemental Provisions) Act, 1961.
- (b) Section 5 of the Act of 1961 is amended by inserting the following subsection after subsection (7):
- “(8) (a) Any qualified person, in accordance with this section, shall have the capacity to read and understand the Constitution of Ireland in its entirety in both official languages prior to being appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
- (b) This subsection shall apply to every appointment made after the coming into operation of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*.’.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

51. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

- “(7) (a) In this subsection, ‘Act of 2008’ means the Legal Practitioners (Irish Language) Act 2008.
- (b) Section 1 of the Act of 2008 is amended—
- (i) by the deletion, in subsection (2), of “in so far as it is reasonable for it to do so,”,
- (ii) by the insertion of the following new subsection after subsection (2):
- “(2A) The Council shall make the appropriate arrangements to ensure that at least 20 per cent of those admitted to practise as barristers-at-law in the Courts per year as from 31 December 2030 are competent in the Irish language so that they can practise law through the Irish language as well as in the English language; at least 30 per cent as from 31 December 2035; and at least 40 per cent as from 31 December 2040;’.
- (c) Section 2 of the Act of 2008 is amended—
- (i) by the deletion of “in so far as it is reasonable for it to do so,”,
- (ii) by the insertion of the following after “through the English language.”:
- “(ba) The Society shall make the appropriate arrangements to ensure that at least 20 per cent of those admitted as solicitors per year as from 31 December 2030 are competent in the Irish language so that they can practise law through the Irish language as well as in the English language; at least 30 per cent as from 31 December 2035; and at

least 40 per cent as from 31 December 2040.’.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

52. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Public Body

4. The Principal Act is amended—

- (a) by the deletion of the First Schedule,
- (b) by amending the following references to the First Schedule:
 - (i) in section 2(1) by the substitution of “section 8A” for “the First Schedule”;
 - (ii) in section 4(1)(c) by the substitution of “section 8A” for “subparagraph (3), (4) or (5) of paragraph 1 of the First Schedule,”;
 - (iii) in section 4(3) by the deletion of “or for the purposes of paragraph 1(5), or under paragraph 3, of the First Schedule”;
 - (iv) by the deletion of section 4(5);
 - (v) in section 10 by the deletion of “(other than a body, organisation or group standing prescribed pursuant to regulations for the purposes of clause (b) of paragraph 1(5) of the First Schedule)”;
 - (vi) in section 27(1) by the deletion of “(other than a Public body, standing prescribed for the purposes of paragraph 1(5) of the First Schedule)”;
 - (vii) in section 36, by the substitution of “of a Department of State or other person specified in section 8A” for “of a Department of State or other person specified in Part 1 of the First Schedule to that Act.”,
- (c) in Part 3 by the insertion of the following section:

‘Public Body

8A. Subject to this section, each of the following shall be a public body for the purposes of this Act:

- (a) Every Government Department, every office or organisation established in the Constitution of Ireland, and the following offices:
 - (i) Commission for Public Service Appointments;
 - (ii) Office of the Revenue Commissioners;
 - (iii) Office of the Director of Consumer Affairs;
 - (iv) Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions; and
 - (v) Central Statistics Office,
- (b) Every other entity established by or under any enactment (other than the Companies Acts),

- (c) Every other entity established (other than under the Companies Acts) or appointed by the Government or by a Minister of the Government, including an entity established by a Minister of the Government under any scheme, order, or warrant,
- (d) Every State agency, board and company (commercial and non-commercial),
- (e) A local authority,
- (f) A health board and the Health Service Executive,
- (g) Retail banks,
- (h) Every body, organisation, company, subsidiary or group that receives funding directly from a Minister of the Government, a Department of State, the Central Fund or from another public body in circumstances where the amount or aggregate of the amounts so received constitutes 50 per cent or more of the current expenditure of that body, organisation or group in a financial year,
- (i) Any body, organisation, company, subsidiary or group that at the date of the coming into operation of this subsection is a public body but subsequently comes under private ownership and control,
- (j) Any body, organisation, company, subsidiary or group performing functions which previously stood vested in a body, organisation or group under public ownership or control,
- (k) Any other body, organisation, company, subsidiary or group on which functions in relation to the general public or a class of the general public stand conferred or permitted by any enactment or by any public service obligation contracts or by any licence or authority given under any enactment, in so far as relates to the performance of those particular functions.’.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

53. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Receipt of services from public bodies in the official languages

4. The Principal Act is amended, in Part 3, by the insertion of the following sections:

“Right to deal with public bodies, and to receive services from them, in the official languages

- 8B.** (1) Every person has the right to communicate with any public body, and to receive services available from it, in either of the official languages.
- (2) In exercising a right conferred on any person by this section, a person or public body or the State may not bring into question the competence of that person in either of the official languages.

Duties of public bodies to ensure that persons can communicate with them, and receive services from them, in the official languages

8C. A public body shall ensure that any member of the public can communicate with it, and receive services available from it, in either of the official languages.

8D. Sections 8B and 8C shall come into operation on such day or days as may be fixed therefore but—

- (a) no later than one year from the passing of this Act in the case of the public bodies mentioned in subsection (1) of section 1 of the First Schedule in their communications with persons within Gaeltacht areas,
- (b) no later than three years from the passing of this Act in the case of the public bodies mentioned in subsection (1) of section 1 of the First Schedule in their communications with persons outside of Gaeltacht areas, and
- (c) no later than six months from the confirmation of language standards by the Minister under section 19 in the case of other public bodies.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

54. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

- 4.** Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by the deletion of “may” for “shall”.”

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

55. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

- 4.** Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(1A) (a) In this subsection—

‘Act of 1961’ means the Road Traffic Act 1961;

‘traffic sign’ has the same meaning as in section 95 (as amended by section 37(a)(ii) of the Road Traffic Act 1994) of the Act of 1961.

- (b) This subsection applies to new traffic signs erected after the coming into operation of this Act, or to any renewal or restoration of an old traffic sign done after the coming into operation of this Act, including those to which Regulations under section 95(2) of the Act of 1961 apply and those to which a direction under 95(16)

of that Act applies.

- (c) This subsection shall not apply to signs erected before the coming into operation of this Act other than where they are being renewed or restored.
- (d) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, any traffic sign placed in any site in the State shall be in the Irish language or in the Irish language and in English notwithstanding any other enactment. In the case of a traffic sign in both the Irish and English languages—
 - (i) the text in the Irish language shall be first,
 - (ii) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent as or more prominent than, as visible as or more visible than, and as legible as or more legible than the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font, typeface and style,
 - (iii) the lettering in the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller in size than the lettering in the text in the English language,
 - (iv) the text in the Irish language shall convey the same information as is conveyed by the text in the English language,
 - (v) no word of the text in the Irish language shall be abbreviated unless the word in the text in the English language, which is a translation thereof, is likewise abbreviated,
 - (vi) where the text in the Irish language and the text in the English language are the same or a placename or the pronunciation of a placename in the Irish language and in the English language are the same, the Irish language version shall be sufficient,
 - (vii) notwithstanding the generality of this subsection, traffic signs may be erected that are in accordance with the International System of Units as adopted by the Bureau Internationale des Poids et Mesures, established by the Metre Convention signed at Paris in 1875, and
 - (viii) where a placenames order under section 32 is, for the time being, in force, the Irish language version of the word or words specified in the order shall be used in any traffic signs erected.
- (e) Where it is intended to locate a traffic sign in the Irish language and in the English language and, as a result of text in both those languages being present, that it would be too large or that it would be difficult to read or that it would be likely to cause an obstruction, or that it would be likely that persons would, while reading it, constitute a danger to themselves or to others, 2 signs instead may be placed at that location, one bearing the information concerned in the Irish language and the other bearing the English language equivalent while complying with the provisions in

subparagraphs (c)(ii) to (viii).

- (f) In the case of a conflict or a dispute regarding a placename in any location in the State, a decision shall be made as to the official correct version in accordance with sections 31 and 32, and all road signs shall comply with their determinations.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

56. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

- 4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(1A) (a) This subsection applies to public bodies responsible for traffic signs.

- (b) A public body shall ensure, as on and from the commencement of this section, where it is renewing or altering a traffic sign, or where it is erecting a new traffic sign, that text forming part of the new logo or altered logo is in the Irish language or in both the Irish and English languages.

- (c) Where text referred to in subsection (1) is in both the Irish and English languages—

- (i) the part of the text in the Irish language shall be before the part of the text in the English language,

- (ii) the part of the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller than the part of the text in the English language and it shall be at least as prominent, as visible and as legible as the part of the text in the English language, and

- (iii) where the part of the text in the Irish language is abbreviated, the part of the text in the English language, which is a translation of that abbreviated text, shall also be abbreviated.

- (d) In this section, “traffic sign” means any sign to which the Road Traffic Act 1961 applies and for which the body is responsible.

- (e) The Minister shall prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, a report setting out a timescale and practical recommendations towards extending the language requirements on traffic signs to cover a wider range of information for public consumption, including other signs, advertisements, labels, packaging, menus, health warnings, and instructions, whether erected, produced or issued by public bodies or private entities, with reference to the measures in place in Canada under the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations as a model, and with the aim of

increasing the visibility and accessibility of the Irish language in the public sphere”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

57. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (1):

“(1A) The Minister shall prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, a report setting out a timescale and practical recommendations towards ensuring Irish language only or bilingual labelling and packaging on consumer products in the State, including mandatory information on products in accordance with regulations under section 3 of the European Communities Act 1972, before 31 December 2025, modelled on the language conditions relating to the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act and Regulations in Canada.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

58. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by the insertion of “or on social media” after “mail”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

59. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (2) by the insertion of “with a person or” after “mail”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

60. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (2):

“(2A) (a) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out specific recommendations and a timetable for

ensuring that where a public body initiates communication, it must do so in both official languages unless the language preference of the intended recipient has been provided in advance, or in a case where the intended recipient is known to be resident in a Gaeltacht language planning area, as defined by the Gaeltacht Act 2012, where communication can be initiated in the Irish language only.

- (b) Nothing in this subsection shall prevent a public body from initiating communication in both official languages or in the Irish language only before issue of the report or timetable in accordance with paragraph (1).”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

61. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (3) by the insertion of “, including any marketing material of the body or material which markets the public body itself or its services,” after “information”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

62. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) A public body shall make the public aware, through active offer, of the services which persons may receive from it through the Irish language.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

63. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, any warning notice on any product to which section 12 of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018 applies and which is placed on the market in the State as from 1 January 2023, shall be in the Irish and English languages notwithstanding any other enactment. In the case of such warning notices—

- (a) the text in the Irish language shall be first,

- (b) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font, typeface and style,
- (c) the lettering in the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller in size than the lettering in the text in the English language,
- (d) the text in the Irish language shall convey the same information as is conveyed by the text in the English language, and
- (e) no word of the text in the Irish language shall be abbreviated unless the word in the text in the English language, which is a translation thereof, is likewise abbreviated.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

64. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, any warning notice on any product placed on the market in the State as from 1 January 2023, including those to which section 12 of the Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018 applies, shall be in the Irish and English languages notwithstanding any other enactment. In the case of such warning notices—

- (a) the text in the Irish language shall be first,
- (b) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font, typeface and style,
- (c) the lettering in the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller in size than the lettering in the text in the English language,
- (d) the text in the Irish language shall convey the same information as is conveyed by the text in the English language, and
- (e) no word of the text in the Irish language shall be abbreviated unless the word in the text in the English language, which is a translation thereof, is likewise abbreviated.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

65. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

- “(4) (a) This subsection applies to any advertising made by a public body, including commercial, online, written, aural, visual and other advertising.
- (b) This subsection applies to the advertising made by a public body per year, and nothing in this subsection shall place on a body a burden of further funding for advertising above the funding committed to for the particular year.
- (c) Of the entire advertising made by each public body in any particular year after the coming into operation of this Act, at least 20 per cent shall be made through the medium of the Irish language.
- (d) Of the advertising made by a public body in any particular year of audio or visual broadcasting services, in the written media or on websites, it shall be ensured that 5 per cent is made on those media which communicate in the Irish language with the public.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

66. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following section:

“Amendment of section 7 of Principal Act

4. The Principal Act is amended by the substitution of the following section for section 7:

“Acts of the Oireachtas

7. (1) Every Bill and every Act of the Oireachtas shall be enacted, printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (2) The Order Paper for each House of the Oireachtas and the *Iris Oifigiúil* shall be printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (3) Every statutory instrument to which the Statutory Instruments Act 1947 applies shall be made, printed and published in each of the official languages simultaneously.
- (4) The Government shall take all possible measures to ensure that any treaty or convention between Ireland and another state or states is authenticated in each of the official languages.
- (5) Subsection (1) shall come into operation on 1 January 2022, notwithstanding any other enactment. Subsections (2), (3) and (4) shall come into operation on 1 January 2029, notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall prevent the enactment, printing or publication of a Bill or Act in each of the official languages simultaneously, the printing or publication of the Order Paper of any House of the Oireachtas or the *Iris Oifigiúil* in each of the official

languages simultaneously, the making, printing or publication of a statutory instrument in each of the official languages simultaneously nor the authentication of a treaty or convention in each of the official languages.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

67. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 8 of Principal Act

4. Section 8 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (6):

“(7) These provisions shall come into operation on 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

68. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by the substitution of “shall” for “may”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

69. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended in subsection (3) by the insertion of “, including marketing material by the public body,” after “information”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

70. In page 8, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 9 of Principal Act

4. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after section 9:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

- 9A. (1) Every person recruited for a position in a public body situated in the Gaeltacht, or for any office, section, division or department of a public body located in the Gaeltacht shall be fluent in the Irish and English languages. This provision shall come into operation on 31 December 2022 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (2) Every public servant working in the Gaeltacht shall be fluent in the Irish and English languages and this provision shall apply in full from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.

- (3) 20 per cent of people recruited for a position in every public body shall be fluent in the Irish and English languages and this provision shall come into operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (4) 20 per cent of public servants working in each public body shall be fluent in the Irish and English languages and this provision shall apply in full from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (5) Services shall be fully available in either of the two official languages of the State from local and regional offices situated in the Gaeltacht, and this provision shall apply from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (6) Services shall be fully available in either of the two official languages of the State from local and regional offices which have a Gaeltacht area or an Irish Language Network in their operational area and this provision shall apply from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (7) Services shall be fully available in either of the two official languages of the State from every public body and this provision shall apply from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (8) As regards certain grades in the public service and where it has been determined that a panel of two people or less shall be established as a result of a particular competition for a particular position or promotion, the Minister, after consultation with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform and with any other Minister or with the head of a public body the Minister considers necessary, shall order the Public Appointments Service or the public body to hold a competition through the medium of one of the two official languages. The Minister shall only issue such an order if he or she has been notified in writing by the Public Appointments Service or the public body of the reasons justifying holding the competition through the medium of one of the two official languages of the State. On issuing such an order, the Minister shall make his or her determination and shall communicate the basis of such a determination to the Commissioner. Any order issued by the Minister shall apply to a particular competition and it shall only apply for a year from the date on which it was issued. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (9) The provisions and regulations relating to the 20 per cent system shall apply to every public body from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (10) The provisions and regulations relating to the 20 per cent system shall apply to every recruitment competition and promotion competition, both external and internal, from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding

any other enactments.

- (11) A bilingual requirement shall apply to any position which provides any service to the public, or to a third party, if the third party is a person, body or organisation of any kind, and this provision shall apply from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (12) Where a person gets a position or a promotion through the 20 per cent system, it shall be part of his or her contract of employment that he or she shall have a duty to operate in either of the two official languages of the State as long as he or she remains in that position, or where he or she gets a promotion directly from having that position, as long as he or she remains in that promoted position. If such a person gets another position outside of the 20 per cent system, that duty shall no longer apply to that person. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (13) It shall be the duty of the public body to provide the necessary training and continuous upskilling in the two official languages of the State to any person employed under the 20 per cent system during his or her working life. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (14) Every employee of a public body shall have the right to have any interactions, of his or her choice, he or she has with the public body, and which relate to his or her personal employment, through either of the two official languages of the State, and it shall be the duty of the public body to so facilitate by having the appropriate facilities and forms available to the employee. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (15) Every public body shall appoint a Bilingual Development Officer at assistant principal level or higher, and it shall assign specific powers and responsibilities to him or her. The Bilingual Development Officer shall ensure that the public body fulfils all of its duties under the Official Language Acts and under the provisions set out for the sector concerned. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (16) It shall be the duty of every public body to prepare a report and to lay it before the Houses of the Oireachtas every year. The report shall include the following details:
 - (a) a list of the services the public body provides to the public, and to other third parties, bilingually, through the Irish language only, and through the English language only;
 - (b) details regarding the total number of people employed by the public body, details regarding the number of people employed under the 20 per cent system, a list of the number of employees who have a duty to provide a bilingual service to the public or to other third

parties;

- (c) details regarding the number of appointments and promotions made by the public body during the previous year, and details regarding the number of appointments and promotions made through the 20 per cent system during the previous year;
 - (d) details regarding the number of times the public body requested the Public Appointments Service to supply it with a bilingual employee and the number of times the Public Appointments Service did so;
 - (e) a list of the officials (responsibility, name, grade, division and contact details) in the various sections of the public body responsible for providing bilingual services;
 - (f) name, grade, contact details, responsibilities and powers of the Bilingual Development Officer;
 - (g) a list of the complaints made to the public body during the previous year regarding any occasion where it failed or refused to provide a bilingual service when requested to do so, and details regarding the decision made by the public body and the policies implemented by it in order to resolve the problem and to subsequently provide the bilingual service;
 - (h) a list of the initiatives the public body implemented during the previous year to promote and encourage bilingualism and to support it. This provision shall be in operation from 31 December 2022 notwithstanding any other enactment.
- (17) The Minister shall establish an advisory group and shall consist of representatives of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, the Public Appointments Service, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla, and any other public body, as appropriate, to advise the Public Appointments Service on recruitment competitions in the context of objectives to ensure an increase in the number of Irish speakers who can operate bilingually in the public service and the provision of Irish speakers in offices situated in Gaeltacht areas or which serve Gaeltacht areas. This provision shall come into operation on and from the date that the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021* comes into operation, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

71. In page 8, to delete lines 20 to 29 and substitute the following:

“9A. (1) Each public body shall ensure that”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

72. In page 8, to delete lines 20 to 37 and substitute the following:

- “9A.** (1) It shall be the duty of every public body to record and use correctly in the Irish language a person’s name or title or address or all of these (including accents).
- (2) This provision shall apply to every service which a public body offers or provides.
- (3) Every public body shall ensure that the information and communication systems, and any other systems (whether electronic systems or non-electronic), which the public body uses during communication with the general public, or with a class of the general public, as the case may be, shall be configured in a way that those systems can record and use correctly a person’s name or title or address in either of the official languages, or all of them, correctly in relation to the services which the body offers or provides.
- (4) Every person shall have the option of using a title in either of the two official languages of the State or not using a title before his or her name. This provision shall cover written and electronic interactions with a public body.
- (5) The provisions of this section shall apply from a date fixed by the Minister after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and he or she shall specify such date within a year of the enactment of this provision.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

73. In page 8, to delete lines 20 to 37 and substitute the following:

- “9A.** The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented to ensure that all public bodies fulfil the following duties before 31 December 2025:
- (a) that it shall be the duty of every public body to record and use correctly in the Irish language a person’s name or title or address or all of these (including accents);
- (b) that this provision shall apply to every service which a public body offers or provides;
- (c) that every public body shall ensure that the information and communication systems, and any other systems (whether electronic systems or non-electronic), which the public body uses during communication with the general public, or with a class of the general public, as the case may be, shall be configured in a way that those systems can record and use correctly a person’s name or

title or address in either of the official languages, or all of them, correctly in relation to the services which the body offers or provides;

- (d) that every person shall have the option of using a title in either of the two official languages of the State or not using a title before his or her name. This provision shall cover written and electronic interactions with a public body.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

74. In page 8, line 22, to delete “title” and substitute “title (including the option to use no title)”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

75. In page 8, line 23, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

76. In page 8, line 23, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Catherine Connolly.

77. In page 9, line 25, to delete “comhchomhairle a dhéanamh” and substitute “dul i gcomhairle”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

78. In page 8, between lines 25 and 26, to insert the following:

“(1A) This Act acknowledges that a version of a name in one official language need not relate to a version of a name in the other official language, and that it is the right of every person to use his or her own name, compiled of any letters or accents in the alphabets of the two official languages, and to have that name recognised in any business he or she is conducting in the State.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

79. In page 8, line 26, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

80. In page 8, line 26, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Catherine Connolly.

81. In page 8, to delete lines 29 to 37 and substitute the following:

“(3) A public body that is prescribed under subsection (1) shall ensure that the information and communications systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), that are used by the body in its communications with the general public, or a class of the general public, as may be appropriate, are configured in a manner that—

- (a) permits a person’s name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name), address or title (including the option to use no title), in the Irish language, to be correctly recorded and used by

such systems in relation to the services offered or provided by the body in respect of which it is so prescribed, and

(b) facilitates the use of the length accent in Irish language text.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

82. In page 8, to delete lines 29 to 37 and substitute the following:

“(3) The Minister shall fix a date by which every public body that is prescribed under subsection (1) shall ensure that the information and communications systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), that are used by the body in its communications with the general public, or a class of the general public, as may be appropriate, are configured in a manner that permits a person’s name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name, a local name, and the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language), address (including the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language) or title (including the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language), in the Irish language, to be correctly recorded and used by such systems in relation to the services offered or provided by the body.

(4) The date fixed under subsection (3) shall be specified publicly by the Minister no later than one year after the enactment of this Act.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

83. In page 8, to delete “name” on line 34, down to including “language” on line 35 and substitute the following:

“name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name, local name, and accents on vowels in the Irish language) address (including accents on vowels in the Irish language) or title (including accents on vowels in the Irish language) in the Irish language”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

84. In page 8, line 37 after “prescribed”, to insert “, no later than 31 December 2025”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

85. In page 10, line 1, to delete “may, following” and substitute the following:

“shall, not later than 3 months after the commencement of *section 4** of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021* and following”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

[*This is a reference to section 4 as inserted by amendment No. 21.]

86. In page 10, line 1, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

87. In page 10, line 1, after “consultation”, to insert “with the Advisory Committee, with the Language Commissioner, and”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

88. In page 10, line 2, to delete “Ministers” and substitute “Minister”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

89. In page 10, lines 3 to 5, to delete all words from and including “(including” in line 3, down to and including “of consonants in the Irish language)” in line 5.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

90. In page 10, line 3, after “guidelines” where it first occurs, to insert “within 3 months of the enactment of this section”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

91. In page 10, line 6, to delete “this section” and substitute “this section and under sections 9B, 9C and 9D”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

92. In page 10, line 7, to delete “A public body shall have regard to” and substitute “Each public body prescribed in accordance with subsection (1) of this section shall comply with”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

93. In page 10, lines 8 and 9, to delete “this section” and substitute “this section and under sections 9B, 9C and 9D”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

94. In page 10, line 10, to delete “as soon as practicable” and substitute “on the date on which they are enacted”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

95. In page 10, line 11, to delete “any”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

96. In page 10, line 13, after “shall”, to insert “, after consulting with the Advisory Committee and with the Language Commissioner,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

97. In page 10, line 14, to delete “any”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

98. In page 10, line 15, to delete “issuing” and substitute “preparation, issuing and publication”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

99. In page 10, between lines 16 and 17, to insert the following:

- “(5) There shall be provision in the contract for the Postcode Management Licence Holder that every Postcode Management Licence Holder should, as part of that contract, provide a fully bilingual service. It shall be part of the service that the Postcode Management Licence Holder provides that there be a facility so that every person may register his or her name or address in either of the two official languages of the State, so that every third party may use the name and the address provided, including their electronic recording systems, regardless of which of the two official languages of the State the name or the address is registered in.
- (6) The tradename of the Postcode Management Licence Holder shall be changed from ‘Eircode’ to ‘Éirchód’.
- (7) These provisions shall be in place no later than 1 January 2025.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

100. In page 10, between lines 16 and 17, to insert the following:

“Extension of duty with regard to names, addresses and titles in Irish to private companies

9AA. The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and not later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented to ensure that all private companies, as established in accordance with the Companies Acts, have the same duty that may be prescribed for public bodies in accordance with section 9A, with regard to the objective of imposing such duty before 31 December, 2027, in particular:

- (a) that it shall be the duty of every company to record and use the name or title or address (including accents) of a person in the Irish language, or all of these, correctly in the Irish language; and
- (b) that every company shall ensure that the information and communication systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), which the company uses in its communications with the general public, or with a class of the general public, as appropriate, shall be configured so that those systems can record and correctly use a person’s name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name and accents on vowels in the Irish language), local name (including accents on vowels in the Irish language), address (including accents on vowels in the Irish language), or title (including accents on vowels in the Irish language and the right not to use a title) in the Irish language in relation to the services which the company offers or provides.”.

101. In page 10, to delete lines 18 to 42 and in page 12, to delete lines 1 to 8 and substitute the following:

- “9B.** (1) The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, fix a date by which the provisions of this section come into effect for online and printed official forms, and the date fixed shall be specified publicly by the Minister no later than 2 years after the enactment of this Act.
- (2) Any official form made by a public body or on its behalf which is to be completed by a person or on his or her behalf, including a legal person not being an emanation of the State, shall be in the Irish language or in both the Irish and English languages notwithstanding any other enactment. In the case of an official form in both the Irish and English languages—
- (a) the text in the Irish language shall be first,
 - (b) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font and of the same style and on the same side of the page concerned,
 - (c) the lettering of the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller in size than the lettering in the text in the English language,
 - (d) the text in the Irish language shall convey the same information as is conveyed by the text in the English language,
 - (e) no word of the text in the Irish language shall not be abbreviated unless the word in the text in the English language, which is a translation thereof, is likewise abbreviated, and
 - (f) where a placenames order under section 32 is, for the time being, in force, the Irish language version of the word or words specified in the order shall be used in any official form.
- (3) Notwithstanding the generality of this subsection, should a bilingual version of an official form exceed 8 pages, 2 versions of the official form may be provided, one version in the Irish language and one version in the English language, with the same information in each version, both versions being of the same font and style and size without any abbreviation in the Irish text unless the word in the English language text, which is a translation of the Irish language word, is likewise abbreviated, and every person shall have the right to have access as easily to the Irish language version of the official form as he or she would have to that of the English language version and it shall be indicated on the front of every form that a version of the same is available in the other official language by request.

- (4) Every official form to which this subsection relates shall be available online in a downloadable or completable online version.
- (5) The Minister shall prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, a report describing the possibilities relating to fixing the 1 January 2025 as the date to be chosen under subsection (1).”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

102.In page 10, to delete lines 18 to 42 and in page 12, to delete lines 1 to 8 and substitute the following:

- “9B.** (1) Any official form made by, or on behalf of, a public body to be completed by, or on behalf of, a person, including a legal person not being an emanation of the State, shall be in the Irish language or in the Irish and English languages notwithstanding any other enactment. In the case of official forms in both the Irish and English languages—
- (a) the text in the Irish language shall appear first,
 - (b) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font, typeface, and style and on the same side of the page concerned,
 - (c) the lettering of the text in the Irish language shall not be smaller in size than the lettering of the text in the English language,
 - (d) the text in the Irish language shall communicate the same information as is communicated by the text in the English language,
 - (e) a word in the text in the Irish language shall not be abbreviated unless the word in the text in the English language, of which it is the translation, is also abbreviated, and
 - (f) where a placenames order under section 32 is, for the time being, in force, the Irish language version of the word or words specified in the order shall be used in any official form.
- (2) Notwithstanding the generality of this subsection, where a bilingual version of an official form exceeds 8 pages, two versions of the official form may be provided, one version in the Irish language and one version in the English language, with the same information in each version, both versions being of the same font and style and size without any abbreviation in the Irish text unless the word in the English language text, which is a translation of the Irish language word, is likewise abbreviated, and every person shall have the right to have access as easily to the Irish language version of the official form as he or she would have to that of the English language version, and it shall be indicated on the front of every form that a version of the same

is available in the other official language by request.

- (3) Every official form to which this subsection relates shall be available online in downloadable form or in a version capable of being completed online.
- (4) This section shall come into operation on 1 January 2024 in respect of online forms and in respect of any form of which 1,000 copies or more are printed annually, and this section shall come into operation in respect of all other forms or in respect of any other class of forms for the time being prescribed by the Minister on such day or days as the Minister may prescribe and in any case not later than 31 December 2030.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

103.In page 10, line 19, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

104.In page 10, line 19, after “consultation”, to insert “with the Advisory Committee, with the Language Commissioner, and”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

105.In page 10, line 23, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

106.In page 11, line 21, to delete “comhchomhairle a dhéanamh” and substitute “dul i gcomhairle”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

107.In page 10, between lines 27 and 28, to insert the following:

“(2A) In the case of an official form in both the Irish and English languages—

- (a) the text in the Irish language shall be first if both languages are on the same page, or on the front page and on each subsequent right hand side page if it is in booklet form where the Irish language version and the English language version rotate with each other, and
- (b) the text in the Irish language shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the text in the English language, and it shall be in the same font, typeface and style and on the same side of the page concerned.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

108. In page 10, line 29 to delete “have regard to” and substitute “specify”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

109. In page 10, to delete lines 31 and 32 and substitute the following:

“(a) the part of the text in the Irish language coming before the part of the text in English, or on the front page and on every subsequent page on the right hand side if it is in a booklet format where the Irish language version and the English version rotate with each other;”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

110. In page 10, between lines 35 and 36, to insert the following paragraph:

“(ba) the part of the text in the Irish language not being in a smaller font than that part of the text in the English language and it being as prominent, as visible and as legible as that part of the text in the English language;”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

111. In page 10, line 40, after “language” to insert “and to ensure the right not to use any titles”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

112. In page 12, line 6, after “language” to insert “and to ensure the right not to use any title”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

113. In page 12, between lines 8 and 9, to insert the following:

“(5) (a) No official form issued by a public body shall compel a person to choose or express gender identity.

(b) An official form may, with specific permission from the Minister pursuant to an application by the public body responsible for that form, afford a person the opportunity to choose or express a gender identity as long as there is always a choice to choose or express a non-binary identity or not to choose or express any gender.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

114. In page 12, line 10, to delete “this section” and substitute “*section 4 of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

[*This is a reference to section 4 as inserted by amendment No. 21.]

115. In page 12, line 10, after “section,” to insert “and in any case no later than 1 January 2026,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

116. In page 12, line 10, after “section,” to insert “and in any case no later than 1 January 2024,”.

—Catherine Connolly.

117. In page 12, line 11, after “text” to insert “, including abbreviations and acronyms,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

118. In page 12, between lines 28 and 29, to insert the following:

“(4) In subsection (1), ‘text’ shall include any abbreviation or acronym of the name, in the Irish language, of the body concerned.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

119. In page 12, line 31, to delete “this section” and substitute “*section 4 of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

[*This is a reference to section 4 as inserted by amendment No. 21.]

120. In page 12, lines 31 and 32, to delete “or in both the Irish and English languages”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán, Catherine Connolly.

121. In page 12, to delete “or” in line 31, down to and including line 32 and substitute “, aside from those mentioned in the First Schedule at paragraph 1(1),”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

122. In page 12, line 34, to delete “this section” and substitute “*section 4 of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

[*This is a reference to section 4 as inserted by amendment No. 21.]

123. In page 12, line 35, to delete “or in both the Irish and English languages” and substitute “, aside from those mentioned in the First Schedule at paragraph 1(1),”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

124. In page 12, line 35, to delete “or in both the Irish and English languages”.

—Catherine Connolly.

125. In page 14, line 6, to delete “abbreviated.” and substitute “abbreviated.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

126. In page 14, line 6, to delete “abbreviated.” and substitute the following:

“abbreviated,

(d) such public body shall only use the Irish language name, or it shall use the Irish language name and the English language name

together, throughout all of its documents, its correspondence, its bills and its advertisements, without exception. When the public body uses its name, it shall refer to itself by the Irish language name only, or by its Irish language and English language name together always, and

(e) such public body shall use its Irish language name only, or it shall use its Irish language and English language name together, in its website address, in its email address and in all of its other electronic addresses.

(4) Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (3) shall come into force on 1 January 2026, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

127. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Public facing services

9E. (1) A public body shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that, where a person provides a public facing service on behalf of the public body, that person shall, in respect of the provision of that service, comply with—

(a) regulations under section 9(1) applying to the public body concerned,

(b) subsections (2) and (3) of section 9, and

(c) such of the relevant language standards prescribed by the Minister under section 19A(2) to apply to the public body concerned.

(2) In this section, ‘public facing service’ means a service offered or provided, whether or not for remuneration, on behalf of a public body by a person other than a public body, to the general public or a class of the general public.”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

128. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Advertising by public bodies

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 10:

“10A.(1) A public body shall ensure that—

(a) at least 20 per cent of any advertising placed by the body in any year shall be in the Irish language, and

(b) at least 5 per cent of any advertising placed by the body in any year shall be in the Irish language through Irish language media.

(2) In this section—

‘advertising’ means—

- (a) any form of commercial communication with the aim or direct or indirect effect of promoting a product or service of the public body concerned, and
- (b) any form of communication, to the public, in respect of—
 - (i) the recruitment of staff,
 - (ii) legislative or policy initiatives,
 - (iii) the purchase or sale of land or assets,
 - (iv) the provision of services, or
 - (v) public consultation;

‘Irish language media’ means any media where 50 per cent or more of the content of that media is through the Irish language.”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

129. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies regarding issued documents

- 9E. (1) In the case of any booklet, bill and other document issued by a public body, these may be issued in Irish or simultaneously in both official languages or, with specific permission obtained from the Minister, in English. In the case of a booklet, bill or other document issued simultaneously in both languages, these shall have the following layout—
- (a) the Irish language version and the English language version are to be laid out as two parts of the same document, instead of as two separate documents,
 - (b) the Irish language version and the English language version shall be laid out side by side on pages opposite each other in the same document and shall not be laid out on either end of the document,
 - (c) the Irish language text shall be as prominent, as visible and as legible as the English language text and in the same font and of the same style,
 - (d) the lettering in the Irish language version shall not be smaller in size than the lettering in the English language version,
 - (e) regarding the Irish language text, the same information shall be conveyed in it as in the English language text,
 - (f) no word shall be abbreviated in the Irish language text unless the same word in the English language text, which shall be a translation, is likewise abbreviated, and
 - (g) where the Irish language text and the English language text are the

same or an Irish language placename and an English language placename are the same, the Irish language version shall suffice.

- (2) The provisions outlined in subsection (1) shall come into effect on 1 January 2026.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

130. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies regarding alphanumeric codes

- 9E. The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be included in the standards to be prescribed in accordance with section 19A in order to ensure, in the case of any alphanumeric code which is issued under the control of a public body based on words or placenames, including index marks for vehicles and postcodes, that they shall be based on Irish language words and placenames only within a reasonable timescale set out by the Minister.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

131. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies regarding alphanumeric codes

- 9E. Every Minister and public body shall ensure, in the case of any alphanumeric code which is issued under its control based on words or placenames, including index marks for vehicles and postcodes, that they shall be based on Irish language words and placenames only from 1 January 2026.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

132. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies regarding online and interactive services

- 9E. The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be included in the standards to be prescribed in accordance with section 19A in order to ensure that all information which is provided on the website or on an interactive service of a public body shall be put online in the Irish language or in the Irish language and in the English language simultaneously after a deadline proposed and specified by the Minister.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

133. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies regarding online and interactive services

- 9E. All information which is provided on the website or on an interactive

service of a public body shall be put online in the Irish language or in the Irish language and in the English language simultaneously.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

134. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies with regard to the status and use of the Irish language in development planning

- 9E. (1) In order to ensure that development planning does not damage the status or use of the Irish language within a Gaeltacht area, public bodies that have a role as a planning authority, including an Bord Pleanála as specified in paragraph 1(2) and a local authority that comes under the scope of paragraph 1(3) of the First Schedule, must refuse permission for any planning application in respect of a development in a Gaeltacht area, in accordance with the Gaeltacht Act 2012, being an application that is not accompanied by a linguistic impact statement, prepared by an independent expert in linguistics and/or language planning, in which it is shown that the proposed development will add to the use of the Irish language rather than the English language locally in the Gaeltacht area, along with a positive recommendation from the chosen organisation in accordance with section 7(6), (10)(a) or (13)(a) of the Gaeltacht Act 2012, to implement the language plan of the area, in which it will be shown that the proposed development will not be inconsistent with the language plan of the area.
- (2) This provision shall apply to every planning application in respect of a development submitted after 31 December 2022.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

135. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty of public bodies with regard to the status and use of the Irish language in development planning

- 9E. (1) In order to ensure that development planning does not damage the status or use of the Irish language within a Gaeltacht area, public bodies that have a role as a planning authority, including an Bord Pleanála as specified in paragraph 1(2) and a local authority that comes under the scope of paragraph 1(3) of the First Schedule, must ensure, in the case of any language conditions that have been set out with regard to a proposed development, that an effective method is in use to assess the Irish-language ability of the person seeking possession of a house shall be used and level B1 or higher on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages shall be the base reference level.
- (2) This provision shall apply to every planned development that is established after 31 December 2022.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

136. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding health services

9E. The Minister shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, the Minister for Health, the medical education institutions, Údarás na Gaeltachta, and any other public body specified in the First Schedule as appropriate having a duty in respect of the provision of health services, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented so as to ensure the right of all persons to receive health services, including mental health services, in their choice of the official languages in Gaeltacht areas before 31 December 2025, and in the remainder of the country before 31 December 2030.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

137. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding health services

9E. The Health Service Executive must ensure the right of all persons to receive health services, including mental health services, in their choice of the official languages. The Minister for Health and the medical education institutions shall, together with Údarás na Gaeltachta, make every effort that services through the Irish language shall be available in Gaeltacht areas before 31 December 2025, and in the remainder of the country before 31 December 2030.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

138. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding educational services

9E. The Minister for Education and Skills shall ensure that each of the services mentioned in section 7(1)(a) of the Education Act 1998 will be provided through the Irish and English languages on an equal footing.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

139. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding educational services

9E. The Minister for Education and Skills shall ensure that, by 31 December 2030, every pupil in Irish-medium early years or primary education and, by 31 December 2040, every pupil in early years or primary education shall have the opportunity to avail of early years or primary and post-primary education through the medium of Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

140. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding educational services

9E. No school or teacher may advise a student not to learn the national language, that he or she would not benefit from it, or that he or she would not be capable of becoming competent in Irish, and every school shall give every reasonable support to every student to learn Irish as appropriate.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

141. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding educational services

9E. Such government Department specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule as is responsible for the provision of educational services, as appropriate, shall, no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prepare and issue a policy containing practical recommendations to ensure that, before deadlines specified by the Minister in such policy, every pupil, particularly every pupil in Irish-medium early years or primary education, shall have the opportunity to avail of primary and postprimary education through the medium of Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

142. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty regarding educational services

9E. (1) Such government Department specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule as is responsible for the provision of educational services, as appropriate, shall prepare, issue and implement, five year policies on Gaeltacht education and education through Irish outside of Gaeltacht areas each five years from 2022, after making a reasonable effort to consult with the body established under section 31 of the Education Act 1998, patrons, national associations of parents, parents’ associations in schools, recognised school management organisations, recognised trade unions and staff associations which are representative of teachers and such other persons who have a particular interest in matters concerning education through Irish or have knowledge with regard to these matters, including people or groups of people who have a particular interest in the education of students who have special educational needs, or who have experience of this type of education, as the Minister considers appropriate, on the provision of education and support services through Irish—

(a) at least at the levels of—

(i) early years,

- (ii) primary,
 - (iii) post-primary,
 - (iv) third level and further education, and
 - (v) the professional development of teachers for Gaeltacht education and education through Irish,
- and
- (b) for people with disabilities or people who have other special educational needs at every level mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (2) The measures relating to subsection (1)(a)(iv) shall have regard to the objective of establishing an all-Irish medium university in the Gaeltacht to train people for them to be qualified in different work sectors in which there are not sufficient Irish speakers at present in order to achieve the objective mentioned in paragraph (b) of section 18C(3), and of establishing, as part of that university, an educational college in accordance with the recommendations in the Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the Use of Irish in the Gaeltacht 2007, and the establishment of that Gael-ollscoil as a university shall be sought before 31 December 2035.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

143. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Ensuring services for Irish Language Education and Gaeltacht Education

9E. The Minister for Education and Skills shall permanently continue to provide secretarial, research and administrative support to an Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta established in accordance with section 31 of the Education Act 1998, as being done by the Minister under subsection (7) of that section, and he or she shall not reduce the funding of such Comhairle without the consent of both Houses of the Oireachtas.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

144. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Ensuring services for Irish Language Education and Gaeltacht Education

9E. (1) In this section, ‘the Act of 1998’ means the Education Act 1998.

(2) There is recognition, in this section, for the role of the body of persons under section 31 of the Act of 1998, known as an Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta, as the principle public body supporting the provision of educational services in the first official language, and the key role of those services in the Irish-medium schooling Movement, in the language revival, and in the training of workers to meet the duties of the State in respect of the

provision of services through Irish, particularly in the Gaeltacht.

- (3) In order to meet the needs of the Gaeltacht schools, the Gaelscoileanna, and the pupils under their direction, and to ensure the promotion of the Irish language as an educational method in the provision of such services, the Minister for Education and Skills shall establish the body mentioned in subsection (2) as a corporate body by order in accordance with section 54 of the Act of 1998.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall put the State to extra cost in respect of the body mentioned in subsection (2), and the Minister for Education and Skills shall see to it that the body receives the secretarial, research and administrative support fixed in accordance with section 31(7) of the Act of 1998 as he or she deems appropriate.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

145. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Duty not to discourage engagement with the Irish language

- 9E. No public body or entity funded in part or in full by a public body, including any individual in the employ of such bodies or entities, may, in the course of their duties or functions for that body or entity, advise an individual not to learn the national language, that he or she would not benefit from it, or that he or she would not be capable of becoming competent in Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

146. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to An Garda Síochána

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. 50 per cent of those who are recruited to An Garda Síochána shall have competence in the Irish language and competence in the English language, including promotion, and this provision shall be in force from 1 January 2030 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

147. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to An Garda Síochána

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. The Minister for Justice shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and with An Garda Síochána, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a

report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented with regard to the objective that 40 per cent of the entire staff of An Garda Síochána shall have competence in the Irish language and competence in the English language from 1 January 2030.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

148. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Every person recruited for a job in a public body situated in the Gaeltacht or for any office, division or department of a public body which is located in the Gaeltacht shall be competent in Irish. This provision shall come into operation on 1 January 2024.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

149. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Every public servant working in the Gaeltacht shall be competent in Irish and this provision shall have full force from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

150. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. (1) 20 per cent of all public servants recruited to fill vacancies in public bodies, including promotions, shall have competence in the Irish language and competence in the English language.

(2) The provisions and the regulations concerning the 20 per cent system shall apply in every public body from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.

(3) The provisions and the regulations concerning the 20 per cent system shall apply to every recruitment competition and promotion competition, both external and internal, from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.

- (4) When a person gets a job or a promotion through the 20 per cent system, it shall be part of his or her contract of employment that he or she shall have a duty to operate in either of the two official languages of the State as long as he or she stays in that job, or when he or she gets a promotion directly from having that job, and as long as he or she stays in that promoted job. If this person gets another job outside of the 20 per cent system, this person shall not have this duty anymore. This provision shall be in force from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

151. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Full services in Irish shall be available from local and regional offices situated in the Gaeltacht. Full services in Irish shall be available from local and regional offices which have a Gaeltacht area or an Irish language network in their operational area. This provision shall apply from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

152. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Full services shall be available in either of the two official languages of the State from every public body and this provision shall apply from 1 January 2026 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

153. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Regarding specific grades in the public service and where it has been determined that a panel of two people or less shall be established as a result of a specific competition for a specific job or promotion, the Minister, after consultation with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform and with any other Minister or any public body the Minister

considers necessary, shall direct the Public Appointments Service or the public body to hold a competition through one of the two official languages. The Minister shall only issue such an order if he or she has been informed in writing by the Public Appointments Service or the public body of the reasons why it is necessary to hold the competition through one of the two official languages of the State. Any order issued by the Minister shall apply to one particular competition and it shall only apply for a year from the date on which it was issued. This provision shall be in force from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

154. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. A bilingual requirement shall apply to any job which provides any service to the public, or to a third party, if the third party is a person, body or organisation of any type, and this provision shall be in force from 1 January 2030 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

155. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Every employee of a public body shall have the right to carry out any interaction he or she has with the public body, and which relates to his or her personal employment, through his or her choice of either of both official languages of the State, and it shall be the duty of the public body to ensure that this is possible by having the appropriate facilities and forms available to the employee. This provision shall be in force from 1 January 2022 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

156. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. Every public body shall appoint a Bilingual Development Officer at assistant principal level or higher, and it shall give the specific powers

and tasks to him or her. The Bilingual Development Officer shall ensure that the public body fulfils all of its duties under the Official Language Acts and under the provisions of the sector in which it is. This provision shall be in force from 1 January 2022 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

157. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

- “10A.** (1) It shall be the duty of every public body to prepare a report and to lay it before the Houses of the Oireachtas every year. The report shall include the following details:
- (a) a list of the services that the public body provides to the public, and to other third parties, bilingually, through Irish only, and through English only;
 - (b) details regarding the total number of people employed by the public body, details regarding the number of people employed under the 20 per cent system, a list of the number of employees who have a duty to provide a bilingual service to the public or to other third parties;
 - (c) details regarding the number of appointments and promotions done by the public body during the previous year, and details regarding the number of appointments and promotions which it made through the 20 per cent system during the previous year;
 - (d) details regarding the number of times that the public body requested the Public Appointments Service to supply it with a bilingual employee and the number of times the Public Appointments Service did so;
 - (e) a list of the officials (responsibility, name, grade, division and contact details) in the various divisions of the public body who are responsible for providing bilingual services;
 - (f) name, grade, contact details, responsibilities and powers of the Bilingual Development Officer;
 - (g) a list of the complaints made to the public body during the previous year regarding any occasion where it failed or refused to provide a bilingual service when requested to do so, and details of the decision made by the public body and the policies it implemented in order to resolve the problem and to subsequently provide the bilingual service;

- (h) a list of the initiatives that the public body implemented during the previous year to promote, encourage and support bilingualism.
- (2) The provisions outlined in subsection (1) shall be in force from 1 January 2025, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

158. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

- 5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. The Minister shall establish an advisory group on which there shall be representatives of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, the Public Appointments Service, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media (or any Department which is responsible for duties regarding the Irish language, the Gaeltacht or the Irish-speaking Community), Office of an Coimisinéir Teanga, and any other public body, as appropriate, in order to advise the Public Appointments Service on recruitment competitions in the context of objectives to increase the number of Irish speakers who can operate bilingually in the public service and to ensure the provision of Irish speakers in offices situated in Gaeltacht areas or which serve Gaeltacht areas. This provision comes into force on and from the date that the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021* comes into force, notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

159. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Recruitment to the Public Sector

- 5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. (1) The Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform shall, after consultation with the Advisory Committee, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, submit to the Houses of the Oireachtas a report setting out practical recommendations that may be implemented with regard to the objectives that, notwithstanding any other enactment—

- (a) every public servant working in the Gaeltacht shall be competent in Irish by 1 January 2025,
- (b) full service in Irish shall be available from all local and regional offices servicing a Gaeltacht area or which have an Irish language network in their operational area by 1 January 2026.

- (2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall prevent a public body from achieving the goals outlined under paragraphs (a) and (b) before the report is published or date mentioned above is reached.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

160. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Membership of State Boards

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. When board members are being nominated after the coming into force of this provision, every Minister of Government shall ensure that at least 20 per cent of the members of each State board shall be competent in the Irish language.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

161. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Membership of State Boards

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. When members of the Arts Council are being nominated in accordance with section 11 of the Arts Act 2003, after the coming into force of this provision, at least 6 of them shall be sufficiently competent in Irish to be able to make use of it without difficulty during their work.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

162. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Membership of State Boards

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new section after section 10:

“10A. When members of the board of RTÉ are being nominated in accordance with section 82 of the Broadcasting Act 2009, after the coming into force of this provision, at least one out of every two members must be able to communicate competently in Irish.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

163. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

- “5. Section 13 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (2):

“(2A) Any individual operating, pursuant to a contract or otherwise, as an

agent on behalf of a public body performing the functions of that public body, to the extent only that it relates to the performance of those particular functions.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

164. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 11 of Principal Act

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after section 11:

“Standard

11A. (1) Every public body shall be classified into one of three categories. A third party, an individual or a body that provides services on behalf of a public body shall be classified in the same category in which the public body, on whose behalf he or she or it provides such services, is classified. Where a third party provides services on behalf of more than one public body, that third party shall undergo separate classification in respect of the services it provides on behalf of each of the different public bodies.

(2) The three categories are Category 1, Category 2 and Category 3. Public bodies and third parties providing any services on behalf of any public body that are classified in Category 1 shall comply with the highest standard for the provision of public services through the medium of both official languages. Public bodies and third parties providing any services on behalf of any public body that are classified in Category 2 shall comply with a lower standard for the provision of public services through the medium of both official languages. Public bodies and third parties providing any services on behalf of any public body that are classified in Category 3 shall comply with the minimum standard for the provision of public services through the medium of both official languages.

(3) A public body that is classified in Category 1 shall provide all services in both official languages. Such services provided by the public body shall be equivalent in terms of standard, accessibility, quality and timeliness, regardless of the official language through the medium of which it provides a service. Third parties providing services on behalf of the public body shall provide such services in accordance with the same standards.

(4) A public body that is classified in Category 2 shall provide an agreed number of services through the medium of both official languages. It shall provide such services in accordance with agreed standards of accessibility, quality and timeliness. Third parties providing services on behalf of the public body shall provide such services in accordance with the same standards.

- (5) A public body that is classified in Category 3 shall provide an agreed number of services through the medium of both official languages. It shall provide such services in accordance with agreed standards of accessibility, quality and timeliness. Third parties providing services on behalf of the public body shall provide such services in accordance with the same standards.
- (6) The Commissioner shall set the overall standards for each of the three categories. He or she shall assign each public body to a particular category following consultation with the public body. With respect to Category 2 and Category 3, the Commissioner shall have the power to agree a change in the standards to be applied to various public bodies within the overall limits set for each of these categories.
- (7) Public bodies and third parties which provide any services on behalf of any public body that is classified in Category 2 or Category 3 may not remain in this category for a period longer than 5 years. All public bodies and third parties providing any services on behalf of any public body shall transfer after 5 years to a higher category, achieving Category 1 classification within 10 years.
- (8) The Commissioner shall monitor the performance of all public bodies and third parties providing any services on behalf of any public body in accordance with the standards for the category in which that public body or third party is classified.
- (9) Where a public body or a third party providing any services on behalf of any public body fails to comply with the standards set for the category in which it is classified, the Commissioner may impose a penalty not exceeding €5,000. This penalty shall only be imposed once in any 5-year period. The Commissioner shall not do so until he or she has made a full report on the provision of services by the public body or third party. The public body or third party shall have the right to appeal against the imposition of the penalty within 30 days of the report being published, and the Commissioner shall hear and determine that appeal within 30 days of its submission to him or her. The Commissioner shall lay the report before both Houses of the Oireachtas within 40 days after publication or, if the public body or third party providing any services on behalf of any public body appeals against the imposition of the penalty, within 10 days after he or she publishes the determination of the appeal.
- (10) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (6) above, the Commissioner shall have the power to reclassify a public body or a third party that provides any services on behalf of any public body into a lower category than the category in which it is classified at any particular time. The Commissioner shall not do so until he or she has made a full report on the provision of services by the public body or third party. Where the Commissioner has prepared such a report, he or she may

impose a penalty not exceeding €5,000 on the public body or third party. This penalty shall only be imposed once in any 5-year period. The public body or third party shall have the right to appeal against the imposition of the penalty within 30 days of the report being published, and the Commissioner shall hear and determine that appeal within 30 days of its submission to him or her. The Commissioner shall lay the report before both Houses of the Oireachtas within 40 days after publication or, if the public body or third party appeals against the imposition of the penalty, within 10 days after he or she publishes the determination of the appeal.

- (11) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (6) above, the Commissioner shall have the power to allow a public body or third party providing any services on behalf of any public body to remain in the same category for a further period of 5 years. The Commissioner shall not do so until he or she has made a full report on the provision of services by the public body or third party. Where the Commissioner has prepared such a report, he or she may impose a penalty not exceeding €10,000 on the public body or third party. The public body or third party shall have the right to appeal against the imposition of the penalty within 30 days of the report being published, and the Commissioner shall hear and determine that appeal within 30 days of its submission to him or her. The public body or third party shall have the right to appeal against the imposition of the penalty within 30 days of the report being published, and the Commissioner shall hear and determine that appeal within 30 days of its submission to him or her.
- (12) The Commissioner shall have the following responsibilities:
- (a) setting the standard of service in each category;
 - (b) regularly reviewing the performance of each public body in each category, and if a public body fails to meet that standard, reporting thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas;
 - (c) supporting and encouraging public bodies as they move towards Category 1 status within a maximum of 10 years.
- (13) These provisions shall come into operation on 1 January 2022 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

165. In page 14, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 11 of Principal Act

5. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after section 11:

“Public Bodies

11A. (1) Subject to this section, each of the following shall be a public body for

the purposes of this Act:

- (a) a Department of State;
- (b) any other entity established by or under any enactment (other than the Companies Acts);
- (c) any other entity established (other than under the Companies Acts) or appointed by the Government or a Minister of the Government, including an entity established (other than under the Companies Acts) by a Minister of the Government under any scheme;
- (d) a company (within the meaning of the Companies Acts) a majority of the shares in which are held by or on behalf of a Minister of the Government;
- (e) a subsidiary (within the meaning of the Companies Acts) of a company to which paragraph (d) relates;
- (f) an entity (other than a subsidiary to which paragraph (e) relates) that is directly or indirectly controlled by an entity to which paragraphs (b), (c), (d) or (e) relate.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

166.In page 14, line 13, after “force.” to insert the following:

“However, a prescribed language standard shall not reduce the duties which applied to a public body under a scheme up to that time.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

167.In page 14, line 26, to delete “shall be provided by the Minister” and substitute the following:

“shall be provided by the Minister and shall include, at the request of a member of the Advisory Committee or as the Minister considers appropriate, facilities for the simultaneous or consecutive interpretation of proceedings of the committee from one official language into the other official language”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

168.In page 14, between lines 26 and 27 to insert the following:

- “(3A) (a) The working language of the Committee shall be Irish.
- (b) With the consent of the Minister, the Committee may permit a person to use another language when in communication with the Committee or at a meeting of the Committee by providing the appropriate translation or interpreting facilities in order to ensure that the Committee is not hindered in conducting its business and administration through Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

169. In page 14, between lines 26 and 27 to insert the following:

“(3A) The working language of the Committee shall be Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

170. In page 14, line 34, after “members” to insert “who are fluent in the Irish language”.

—Catherine Connolly.

171. In page 14, line 35, to delete “a” and substitute “an independent”.

—Catherine Connolly.

172. In page 14, line 36, to delete “11 ordinary members” and substitute “10 ordinary members”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

173. In page 14, line 37, after “Minister” to insert “in accordance with the process of the Public Appointments Service”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

174. In page 16, to delete lines 1 and 2 and substitute the following:

“(2) The Minister shall ensure that the person appointed as Chairperson is one who is competent in Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

175. In page 16, to delete lines 1 and 2 and substitute the following:

“(2) The Minister shall ensure that the person appointed as Chairperson is one who has particular experience and expertise regarding the provision of or the demand for services through the medium of Irish, language planning, change management, public administration or research.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

176. In page 16, to delete lines 1 and 2 and substitute the following:

“(2) The Minister shall ensure that the Chairperson is independent and that the person appointed is not employed by a public body falling within paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule in the performance of his or her duties as Chairperson.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

177. In page 16, to delete lines 1 and 2.

—Catherine Connolly.

178. In page 16, line 2, to delete “as Chairperson” and substitute the following:

“as Chairperson, and the person so designated shall be a person who is competent in the Irish language”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

179.In page 16, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(ca) one member nominated by Foras na Gaeilge as a representative of Foras na Gaeilge,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

180.In page 16, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(ca) one member nominated by Údarás na Gaeltachta as a representative of Údarás na Gaeltachta,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

181.In page 16, line 11, to delete “7 other members” and substitute “6 other members”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

182.In page 16, line 11, to delete “7 other members” and substitute “2 other members”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

183.In page 16, line 13, to delete “and”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

184.In page 16, to delete lines 14 and 15 and substitute the following:

“(e) one member, who shall be competent in the Irish language, nominated by the Minister, following a process established by the Public Appointments Service, as a representative of Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, and

(f) one member, who shall be competent in the Irish language, nominated by the Minister, following a process established by the Public Appointments Service, as a representative of areas of the State that are not Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

185.In page 16, to delete lines 14 and 15 and substitute the following:

“(e) at least 4 members as representatives of the Irish-speaking community, including the Gaeltacht community, the Irish-speaking community outside of the Gaeltacht, voluntary Irish-language organisations and providers of Irish-language and Gaeltacht education,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

186.In page 16, lines 14 and 15, to delete “of a Gaeltacht area.” and substitute the following:

“of the Gaeltacht community, and

(f) one member nominated by the Minister as a representative of the Irish language community outside the Gaeltacht, and

(g) an expert in linguistics.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

187.In page 16, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“(3A) When appointing members of the Advisory Committee, the Minister shall ensure that—

(a) they have particular experience and expertise regarding the provision of or the demand for services through the medium of Irish, language planning, change management, public administration or research, and

(b) there is an appropriate balance between men and woman in the membership of the Committee.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

188.In page 16, line 24, to delete “6 years” and substitute “5 years”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

189.In page 16, line 27, to delete “by the effluxion of time”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

190.In page 16, line 31, to delete “6 years” and substitute “5 years”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

191.In page 16, line 32, to delete “2 consecutive terms” and substitute “second consecutive term”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

192.In page 18, to delete lines 8 to 16.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

193.In page 18, to delete lines 11 and 12.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

194.In page 18, line 13, to delete “(c)” and substitute “(a)”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

195.In page 18, to delete lines 15 and 16 and substitute the following:

“(b) is subject or is deemed to be subject to a disqualification order, within the meaning of Chapter 4 of Part 14 of the Companies Act 2014, whether by virtue of that Chapter or any other provision of that Act.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

196.In page 18, lines 17 and 18, to delete “The Minister shall determine the procedures of the Advisory Committee” and substitute “The Committee itself shall determine the procedures of the Advisory Committee, other than its terms of reference, which shall be set by the Minister.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

197.In page 18, line 25, to delete “6 years” and substitute “5 years”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

198.In page 18, line 33, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

199.In page 20, line 1, after “advise” to insert “and provide deadlines and specific recommendations to”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

200.In page 20, to delete line 15.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

201.In page 20, line 18, to delete “and (b).” and substitute “and (b), and”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

202.In page 20, between lines 18 and 19, to insert the following:

“(d) every 5 years after the establishment day, carry out and submit to the Minister a survey on the level of competence in the Irish language of staff of public bodies, and such survey shall include the following:

- (i) the total number of staff of public bodies who are competent in the Irish language;
- (ii) the total number of staff of public bodies who have undertaken an Irish language training course;
- (iii) the total number of staff of public bodies who speak the Irish language in the workplace, whether when carrying out their duties or otherwise, and the frequency with which they speak the Irish language.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

203.In page 20, line 26, to delete “have regard to” and substitute “ensure”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

204.In page 20, line 26, to delete “regard to”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

205.In page 20, between lines 26 and 27, to insert the following:

“(a) that every service provided by public bodies be provided through the medium of Irish in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas by 31 December 2025 or, if the Advisory Council grants emergency permission to a particular public body, not later than 31 December 2030,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

206.In page 20, to delete lines 27 to 34 and substitute the following:

- “(a) having services provided by public bodies in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas available through the medium of the Irish language by 31 December 2025,
- (b) increasing the number of services provided by public bodies through the medium of the Irish language, having regard to services provided by public bodies in Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks, and
- (c) increasing the number of staff of public bodies who are competent in the Irish language so that, by 31 December 2025, at least 20 per cent of the staff recruited to public bodies are so competent.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

207.In page 20, line 30, to delete “and” where it secondly occurs and substitute the following:

- “(aa) increasing the number of staff of public bodies who are competent in the Irish language so that—
 - (i) by 31 December 2030, at least 10 per cent of the staff of public bodies are so competent,
 - (ii) by 31 December 2040, at least 20 per cent of the staff of public bodies are so competent,
 - (iii) by 31 December 2050, at least 30 per cent of the staff of public bodies are so competent,
- and”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

208.In page 20, to delete lines 31 to 34 and substitute the following:

- “(b) increasing the number of staff of public bodies who are competent in the Irish language so that—
- (i) by 31 December 2025, at least 20 per cent of staff recruited to public bodies are so competent,
- (ii) by 31 December 2030, at least 30 per cent of staff recruited to public bodies are so competent,
- (iii) by 31 December 2035, at least 40 per cent of staff recruited to public bodies are so competent,
- (iv) by 31 December 2040, at least 50 per cent of staff recruited to public bodies are so competent.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

209.In page 20, lines 32 and 33, to delete “as soon as practicable after the establishment day” and substitute “by 31 December 2025”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

210.In page 20, line 33, to delete “establishment day” and substitute “establishment day, but no later than 31 December 2030”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

211.In page 20, between lines 36 and 37, to insert the following:

“(5) The Advisory Council shall make a survey on Irish competency in the civil service every five years from the establishment of the Committee, and submit the results of the survey to the Minister and to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Irish Language, Gaeltacht and the Irish-speaking Community, and they shall investigate the following:

- (a) the number of civil servants who are competent in Irish;
- (b) the standard of competence among civil servants who are competent in Irish;
- (c) the number of civil servants who speak Irish in the workplace;
- (d) the standard of Irish in use in the workplace;
- (e) the services available to the community through Irish; and
- (f) the standard of Irish in those services being provided in Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

212.In page 20, line 38, to delete “The Minister shall” and substitute the following:

“(1) The Minister shall”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

213.In page 22, line 3, after “operation” to insert “and in any case not later than three months from the Minister’s approval”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

214.In page 22, line 9, after “Oireachtas” to insert “and such joint committee of the Houses of the Oireachtas as discusses policy matters relating to the Irish language, the Gaeltacht, the islands and the Irish-speaking community”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

215.In page 22, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“(2) The Minister may, as he or she considers appropriate, request a public body, in respect of whom services identified in the National Plan as services provided by the body concerned that are not provided through the medium of the Irish language, to report to the Minister in relation to progress made by the body to so provide the services and to

implement the Plan, and the Minister shall be responsible for the co-ordination of the implementation of the Plan by all such public bodies.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

216.In page 22, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“(2) The senior Minister shall be responsible for implementing the National Plan.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

217.In page 22, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“(2) The National Plan shall have statutory force as soon as it is in operation, and every public body shall comply with its proposals.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

218.In page 22, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Public bodies in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas

18E. The Minister shall, by order, within 3 months of submitting the National Plan to the Government under section 18D(1)(a)(iii) and having regard to the National Plan—

- (a) specify the date by which the Irish language shall become the working language in the offices, in a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area, of a public body or class of public bodies and different dates may be specified in respect of different Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, and
- (b) specify the date by which all services provided by a public body or class of public bodies in a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area shall be provided through the medium of the Irish language and different dates may be specified in respect of different Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

219.In page 22, to delete lines 13 to 17 and substitute the following:

“18F.(1) The Advisory Committee shall, not later than 30 June of each year, provide a progress report to the Minister and to the Commissioner with regard to its work during the preceding year or, in the case of its first progress report, its work from the establishment day up to and including 31 December of the following year.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

220.In page 22, line 15, to delete “each 2 year period” and substitute “each year”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

221.In page 22, to delete line 17 and substitute “two years preceding the first report and during every subsequent year.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

222.In page 22, line 31, after “Oireachtas” to insert “and such joint committee of the Houses of the Oireachtas as discusses policy matters relating to the Irish language, the Gaeltacht, the islands and the Irish-speaking community”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

223.In page 22, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“18F. The senior Minister with responsibility for the Gaeltacht shall be responsible for the implementation of the National Plan.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

224.To delete pages 24 and 26 and, in page 28, lines 1 to 24 and substitute the following:

“Introduction of standards

19A. (1) Each public body shall be classified into one of three sectors. A third party, individual or body providing services on behalf of a public body shall be classified in the same sector as the public body for which it, or he or she, provides those services. Where a third party provides services on behalf of more than one public body, that third party shall be classified apart in respect of the services it provides for each of the different public bodies.

(2) The three sectors shall be Sector 1, Sector 2, and Sector 3. Public bodies and third parties which provide any services on behalf of any public body classified in Sector 1 shall supply the highest standard with regard to the provision of public services in the two official languages of the State. Public bodies and third parties which provide any services on behalf of any public body classified in Sector 2 shall supply a lower standard with regard to the provision of public services in the two official languages of the State. Public bodies and third parties which provide any services on behalf of any public body classified in Sector 3 shall supply the lowest standard with regard to the provision of public services in the two official languages of the State.

(3) A public body classified in Sector 1 shall provide all of the services it provides in the two official languages of the State. It shall provide those services at the same level with regard to standard, accessibility, quality and timeliness, irrespective of the official language in which it is providing a service. Third parties which provide services on behalf of the public body shall provide those services in accordance with the same standards.

(4) A public body classified in Sector 2 shall provide an agreed number of services in the two official languages of the State. It shall provide

these services in accordance with an agreed standard, with regard to accessibility, quality and timeliness. Third parties which provide services on behalf of the public body shall provide those services in accordance with the same standards.

- (5) A public body classified in Sector 3 shall provide an agreed number of services in the two official languages of the State. It shall provide those services in accordance with an agreed standard, with regard to accessibility, quality and timeliness. Third parties which provide services on behalf of the public body shall provide those services in accordance with the same standards.
- (6) The Language Commissioner shall set the overall standards respecting each one of the three sectors. He or she shall assign each public body to a particular sector having consulted with the public body. With regard to Sector 2 and Sector 3, the Language Commissioner shall have the power to agree to a change in the standards to be applied regarding different public bodies within the overall limits set for each of those sectors.
- (7) None of the public bodies and third parties which provide any services on behalf of any public body classified in Sector 2 or Sector 3 shall remain in that Sector for longer than 5 years. Each public body and each third party which provides any services on behalf of any third party shall be transferred to a higher sector after 5 years so that it is classified in Sector 1 within 10 years.
- (8) The Language Commissioner shall monitor the performance of each public body and third party providing any services on behalf of any public body in accordance with the standards for the Sector in which that public body or third party is classified.
- (9) The Language Commissioner shall have the following responsibilities:
 - (a) to set the standard of service in each Sector;
 - (b) to review the performance of each public body in each category on a regular basis, and where a public body fails to achieve this standard, to submit a report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas;
 - (c) to support and encourage public bodies seeking to achieve Sector 1 status within 10 years at the most.
- (10) The standards and these provisions shall have effect as from 1 January 2025 notwithstanding any other enactment.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

225.In page 24, line 3, after “bodies” to insert the following:

“or any third party supplying any services on behalf of any public body in the same class into which such public body is placed, insofar

as it applies to those services”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

226.In page 24, line 4, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

227.In page 24, line 4, to delete from “, with the”, down to and including “vested,” on line 7.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

228.In page 24, line 4, after “may” to insert “, following consultation with the Advisory Committee,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

229.In page 24, line 9, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

230.In page 24, line 11, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

231.In page 24, lines 13 and 14, to delete “may include standards specifying” and substitute “shall specify”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

232.In page 24, line 13, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Catherine Connolly.

233.In page 24, line 28, after “languages,” to insert “and”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

234.In page 24, line 36, to delete “policy, and” and substitute “policy.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

235.In page 26, to delete lines 1 to 3.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

236.In page 26, line 1, after “timescale” to insert “, with a deadline not later than 31 December 2025,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

237.In page 26, line 3, to delete “bodies.” and substitute the following:

“bodies, and

- (f) a timescale within which the information and communication systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), the body uses in its communications with the general public, or with a class of the general public, as appropriate, shall be configured in a way that those systems can record and use correctly

a person's name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name, local name, and accents over vowels in the Irish language), address (including accents over vowels in the Irish language) or title (including accents over vowels in the Irish language and the right not to use a title) in the Irish language in relation to the services which the body offers or provides.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

238.In page 26, line 3, to delete “bodies.” and substitute the following:

“bodies, and

- (f) services to be provided, through both the Irish and English languages, by the public body to employees of public bodies when dealing with their employer in the course of their employment.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

239.In page 26, line 3, to delete “bodies.” and substitute the following:

“bodies, and

- (f) the specification of the positions for which there is an insufficient number of persons with Irish who are qualified to fill them, and a plan to resolve this problem by developing education and training at third level and further education for those positions.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

240.In page 26, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“(3A) The Minister shall establish a standard within 6 months of the enactment of this Act to ensure that all of the services of the State will be available in the Gaeltacht through Irish before 31 December 2025.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

241.In page 26, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

- “(f) a timescale within which the information and communications systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), that are used by the body in its communications with the general public, or a class of the general public, as may be appropriate, are configured in a manner that permits a person's name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name and the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language), address (including the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language) or title (including the acute accent on vowels in the Irish language), in the Irish language, to be correctly recorded and used by such systems in relation to the services offered or provided by the body which will enable the Irish language to become the working language in such offices.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

242.In page 26, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“(f) services to be provided, through both the Irish and English languages, by the public body to employees of public bodies when dealing with their employer in the course of their employment.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

243.In page 26, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“(f) the Irish language shall be the default language for the provision of services by public bodies in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas and tenders relating to public services shall be made proactively through the medium of the Irish language by 31 December 2025.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

244.In page 26, between lines 3 and 4, to insert the following:

“(f) services provided through the medium of the Irish language shall be provided to a high standard in every domain relating to language use in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas and tenders relating to services shall be made proactively through the medium of the Irish language by 31 December 2025.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

245.In page 26, lines 18 and 19, to delete “with particular reference to Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas” and substitute the following:

“with the objective that a public body, which serves a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area as part of its functional area, provide all of its services to the Gaeltacht community in that Language Planning Area in the Irish language before 31 December 2025”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

246.In page 28, line 10, after “or (d)” to insert “for a further period not longer than three months and on the basis of one designated exceptional reason, with the consent of the Advisory Committee”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

247.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) (a) The Minister, after consulting with the Minister for Finance, the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communication and An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this provision, shall prescribe a language standard in accordance with subsection (2) for a class of public bodies which act as State regulators, including the following bodies:

(i) the Central Bank of Ireland;

(ii) the Commission for Regulation of Utilities;

- (iii) the Commission for Communications Regulation; and
 - (iv) the Regulator of the National Lottery.
- (b) The Minister, after consulting with An Coimisinéir Teanga and with the Minister of the Government with responsibility for the sector in which the public body acts as a regulator, may prescribe that any other State regulator the Minister considers appropriate be subject to the language standard mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (c) The language standard established in accordance with paragraph (a) shall specify that the public bodies to which that standard relates shall endeavour to ensure, by attaching a condition to an authorisation or licence confirmation for a body or company which is regulated by them and which provides financial, utility, communications or other services to the public or to any class of the public as a provider, that the following requirements are complied with:
- (i) that every provider shall record the name or title or address of the person and use it correctly in either of the official languages, as the person considers appropriate, including accents and the lenition of consonants in the Irish language, in any communication or data of the provider which relates to that person;
 - (ii) that the provider will reply in the same language to any communication a person has with it in an official language in writing, by electronic mail or on social media;
 - (iii) that the consumer shall have the opportunity to receive personal communication in writing, by electronic mail or on electronic services online, including bills, from the provider, in his or her choice of official language;
 - (iv) that any interactive service provided by a provider in the State, including automated teller machines and online banking services, shall cater for a person equally in both official languages; and
 - (v) that any service which is regulated by the above-mentioned regulators and provided in a Gaeltacht area, as defined in the Gaeltacht Act, 2012, shall be fully available through the medium of Irish.
- (d) The Minister shall fix a date or dates in the language standard prescribed in accordance with paragraph (a) by which it will be the duty of the public bodies to ensure that requirements (i) – (v) in paragraph (c) are complied with in their authorisation or licensing processes, having regard to the objective that a provider which they regulate must comply with each of them not later than the 31

December 2030 in order to receive or retain an authorisation or licence.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

248.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) (a) The language standard which applies to such public bodies as are responsible for the Postcode Management Licence shall ensure that the Postcode Management Licence Holder, as part of that contract, must provide a fully bilingual service and, in particular, that there shall be a facility so that every person can register his or her name or address in either of the two official languages of the State, so that every third party can use the name and the address given to it, including in their electronic recording systems, regardless of which of the two official languages of the State the name or the address is registered in, and the standards shall endeavour to ensure that this objective of bilingual provision is achieved not later than 1 January 2025.

(b) The Postcode Management License Holder trade name shall be changed from ‘Eircode’ to ‘Éirchód’ not later than 1 January 2025.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

249.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The language standard which applies to the Department of Education and Skills, or to such government Department as is specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule and is responsible for the provision of education services, as appropriate, shall endeavour to ensure that each of the services mentioned in section 7(1)(a) of the Education Act 1998 will be provided through the Irish and English languages on an equal footing.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

250.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The language standard which applies to the Department of Education and Skills, or to such government Department as is specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule and is responsible for the provision of education services, as appropriate, shall endeavour to ensure that every pupil, particularly every pupil in Irish-medium early years or primary education, shall have the opportunity, before deadlines specified in the standard, to receive primary and postprimary education through the medium of Irish.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

251.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Department of Education and Skills, or to such government Department as is specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule and is responsible for the provision of education services, as appropriate, shall ensure that no school or teacher may advise a student not to learn the national language, or tell him or her that he or she would not benefit from it or that he or she would not be capable of becoming competent in Irish, and every school shall give every reasonable support to every student to learn Irish as appropriate.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

252.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, or to such government Department as is specified in paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule and has duties under the Arts Act 2003, as appropriate, shall endeavour to ensure that their duties under section 5 of the Arts Act 2003 are fulfilled by promoting the arts in the two official languages inside and outside the State.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

253.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, or to such public body as has duties in relation to the agreement of sound broadcasting contracts in accordance with the Broadcasting Act 2009, as appropriate, shall ensure that it is a condition of every sound broadcasting contract agreed in accordance with section 66 of that Act—

- (a) that the contractor shall broadcast at least 10 per cent of the annual number of hours of radio programming through Irish before 31 December 2030; 20 per cent before 31 December 2035; and 30 per cent before 31 December 2040, and
- (b) that the contractor shall broadcast at least 20 per cent of the annual number of hours of radio programmes through Irish before 31 December 2030; 30 per cent before 31 December 2035; and 40 per cent before 31 December 2040, if the contract is in respect of a regional or local area which includes a Gaeltacht area.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

254.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, or to such public body as has duties in relation to the agreement of television programme service contracts in accordance with the

Broadcasting Act 2009, as appropriate, shall ensure that it is a condition of every television programme service contract agreed in accordance with section 70 of that Act that the contractor shall broadcast at least 10 per cent of the annual number of hours of television programming through Irish before 31 December 2030; 20 per cent before 31 December 2035; and 30 per cent before 31 December 2040.

- (9) The standard which applies to Raidió Teilifís Éireann shall ensure that they broadcast at least 20 per cent of the annual number of hours of television programming through Irish before 31 December 2030; 30 per cent before 31 December 2035; and 40 per cent before 31 December 2040.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

255.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, or to such public body as has duties in relation to the agreement of television programme service contracts in accordance with the Broadcasting Act 2009, as appropriate, shall ensure that television programme broadcasting services that are under the control of the Authority or of that body are subject to a condition, with regard to the total daily times for broadcasting advertisements, whereby—

- (a) at least 50 per cent of the advertisements in any hour shall be through Irish by 31 December 2025, and
- (b) of the advertisements broadcast by Teilifís na Gaeilge, 100 per cent of them shall be through Irish by 31 December 2030.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

256.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

“(8) The standard which applies to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, or to such public body as has duties in relation to the Broadcasting Act 2009, as appropriate, shall ensure that a survey is carried out every year on broadcasting in Irish and English on all of the television and radio stations, and they shall prepare a report on the results of that survey and submit that report to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and to both Houses of the Oireachtas before the end of the year.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

257.In page 28, between lines 10 and 11, to insert the following:

- “(8) (a) The Minister shall, after consultation with whichever Minister is responsible for arts and culture, and no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prescribe a Language Standard for the class of public bodies involved in the funding language-based arts,

in particular the Arts Council and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, shall ensure—

- (i) language-based arts through the medium of English are not given priority funding over language-based arts in the national language,
 - (ii) duties carried out by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under section 5(1) of the Arts Act 2003 are fulfilled in a balanced manner that promotes the arts both in the Irish language and in the English language.
- (b) Nothing in paragraph (a) of this section shall place a burden of further funding for the arts on the class of public bodies prescribed above the overall funding committed to for a particular year, nor shall it prevent the promotion of language-based arts in another language not specified as an official language of the State.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

258. In page 28, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

- “(8) The Minister shall, no later than one year after the enactment of this provision, prescribe a specific Language Standard, after consultation with the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Údarás na Gaeltachta, local authorities representing Gaeltacht areas, An Bord Pleanála, organisations chosen in accordance with section 7(6), (10)(a) and (13)(a) of the Gaeltacht Act 2012, and residents of Gaeltacht areas, for the class of public bodies listed in the First Schedule that have responsibility as planning authorities, setting out guidelines for the protection of the status and use of the Irish language in Gaeltacht areas in processes relating to planning decisions. This Language Standard will contain provisions outlining:
- (a) the level of service provision in both official languages to applicants and members of the public required of those public bodies included,
 - (b) a timeline for the total prohibition of developments which fail to account for the socio-linguistic needs of Gaeltacht communities or appear likely to do harm to the Gaeltacht character of communities,
 - (c) the way in which public bodies should conduct socio-linguistic impact assessments on planning applications,
 - (d) what constitutes an effective method to assess the Irish language ability of persons seeking possession of a property in Gaeltacht areas, and
 - (e) which level, or levels depending on the socio-linguistic contexts in different Gaeltacht areas, on the Common European Framework of

Reference for Languages should be adopted as the minimum requirement for new residents acquiring property in Gaeltacht areas.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

259.In page 28, between lines 12 and 13, to insert the following:

“(9) The term “Aicme” shall be used instead of the term “Caighdeán” in Irish, in any State communication, as the official title of a language standard while it is being prescribed and after it has been prescribed in accordance with this section in order to distinguish between standards concerning language duties in respect of the supply of services to which this section relates and An Caighdeán Oifigiúil as defined in the Houses of the Oireachtas (Amendment) Act, 2013, prepared by the Houses of the Oireachtas as the guide for writing in the Irish language and Irish language grammar.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

260.In page 28, to delete lines 26 to 30 and substitute the following:

“**19B.**(1) Where the Minister has prescribed, under section 19A(2), a language standard to apply to a public body, the body shall comply with the standard, or part of the standard, as the case may be, unless and until a derogation has been granted in respect of the standard or in respect of part of the standard.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

261.In page 28, between lines 34 and 35, to insert the following:

- “(3) (a) Where a public body or third party which provides any services on behalf of any public body fails to comply with the standards set for the body or for the sector in which it is classified, An Coimisinéir Teanga may impose a penalty of up to €15,000.
- (b) Any moneys received by the imposition of penalties shall be retained in the Exchequer in an Irish Language Sub-Fund.
- (c) This penalty shall be imposed once only in any particular 5 year period.
- (d) The Commissioner shall not impose a penalty in accordance with paragraph (a) until the Commissioner has given a complete report on the provision of services by the public body or third party.
- (e) The public body or third party shall have the right to appeal the imposition of a penalty within 30 days of the publication of the report, and An Coimisinéir Teanga shall hear that appeal and give a ruling on it within 30 days of the appeal being submitted to him or her. An Coimisinéir Teanga shall submit the report to both Houses of the Oireachtas within 40 days of publishing it or, if the public

body or third party which provides any services on behalf of any public body appeals the imposition of a penalty, within 10 days of publishing the decision on the appeal.

- (f) When the Irish Language Sub-Fund reaches the value of €100,000, Foras na Gaeilge, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, may distribute the money as a grant to a particular project to promote the Irish language from amongst applications received from the public.
- (g) A value of €100,000 having been reached by the Fund and the money having been distributed in grants to the public, the Minister for Finance shall begin again to collect any moneys received by the imposition of penalties in accordance with paragraph (a).”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

262. In page 28, between lines 34 and 35, to insert the following:

- “(3) The Advisory Committee shall prepare and issue a report, not later than one year after the coming into operation of this Act, based on the objective of encouraging public bodies to perform their language duties, in which it shall lay out—
 - (a) specific recommendations regarding the possibilities for a system to impose fines and money penalties on public bodies which contravene the language duties conferred on them in the standards and in legislation,
 - (b) the potential role of An Coimisinéir Teanga in the monitoring process,
 - (c) ways in which money collected as a result of fines can be used to promote the Irish language, and
 - (d) a potential timetable for the implementation of the recommended system or systems.
- (4) The Committee shall submit the report to the Minister and the Houses of the Oireachtas as soon as possible after the date on which it is issued.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

263. In page 30, line 28, to delete “may” and substitute “shall”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

264. In page 30, line 29, to delete “or” and substitute “and the Advisory Committee, as well as”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

265. In page 32, line 10, after “appropriate” to insert “to promote the Irish language”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

266. In page 32, line 12, to delete “3 years” and substitute “2 years”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

267. In page 32, to delete lines 27 to 30 and substitute the following:

“19D. (1) The Minister shall provide guidelines to public bodies in order to provide them with practical guidance as regards compliance with the language standards within three months of prescribing any language standard under section 19A(2), and again, subsequently, as the Minister considers appropriate.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

268. In page 32, line 27, to delete “may” and substitute “must”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

269. In page 32, line 27, after “may”, to insert “, within three months of issuing the language standards and again, subsequently, as the Minister considers appropriate,”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

270. In page 32, line 31, to delete “as soon as practicable” and substitute “on the same date as they are issued”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

271. In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Financial Companies, Utility Companies and Communications Companies

8. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new Part after Part 3:

“PART 3A

FINANCIAL COMPANIES, UTILITY COMPANIES AND COMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

Duties of financial companies, utility companies and communications companies to provide service in the official languages

19A. (1) Where a person communicates in an official language with a body that provides a financial, utility or communications service under the control of the Central Bank of Ireland, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities or the Commission for Communications Regulation, in writing or by electronic mail, that body shall reply in the same language before 31 December 2030.

(2) Where a body that provides a financial, utility or communications service under the control of the Central Bank of Ireland, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities or the Commission for Communications Regulation communicates in writing, by electronic mail, or on an electronic service or online, including by an automated teller machine and online banking services, with a consumer, the body

shall ensure that the consumer shall have the opportunity to receive personal communication, including Bills, and to use interactive services in his or her choice of official language before 31 December 2030.

- (3) The company responsible to the public for providing any financial, utility or communications service provided in a Gaeltacht area, as defined under the Gaeltacht Act 2012, must provide that service entirely through the Irish language before 31 December 2030.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Ruairí Ó Murchú.

272.In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Private Companies

- 8.** The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new Part after Part 3:

“PART 3A

PRIVATE COMPANIES

Duties of private companies regarding people’s names, addresses and titles

19A. (1) It shall be the duty of every private company, established in accordance with the Companies Acts, to record and use correctly in the Irish language a person’s name or title or address or all of these in the Irish language (including accents).

- (2) This section shall come into operation on 31 December 2027.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

273.In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Private Companies

- 8.** The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of following new Part after Part 3:

“PART 3A

PRIVATE COMPANIES

Duties of private companies regarding people’s names, addresses and titles

19A. Every private company established in accordance with the Companies Acts shall ensure that the information and communication systems, and any other systems (whether electronic or otherwise), which the company uses in its communications with the general public, or with a class of the general public, as appropriate, shall be configured in a way that those systems can record and use correctly a person’s name (including the patronymic or matronymic form of the name and accents on vowels in the

Irish language), local name (including accents on vowels in the Irish language), address (including accents on vowels in the Irish language), or title (including accents on vowels in the Irish language and the right not to use a title) in the Irish language in relation to the services which the company offers or provides not later than 31 December 2027.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

274. In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Private Companies

8. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of following new Part after Part 3:

“PART 3A

PRIVATE COMPANIES

Private Companies

- 19A.** (1) Private companies established in accordance with the Companies Acts that employ 250 or more people employed shall have the same duties as public bodies under this Act.
- (2) This section shall come into operation on 31 December 2030 as regards any particular duties in this Act that relate to functioning, or providing a service, in a Gaeltacht area, and on 31 December 2035 in the case of every other duty.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

275. In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Right to use the Irish language

8. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following new Part after Part 3:

“PART 3A

RIGHT TO USE THE IRISH LANGUAGE

Right to use the Irish language

- 19A.** The Irish language is the national language, and accordingly, it is recognised that everyone has the right to communicate with the State through the medium of the Irish language.

Request to the Commissioner to protect the right to use the Irish language

- 19B.** (1) A person may request the Commissioner to carry out an investigation to ascertain whether another person has interfered with the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the

Irish language (the ‘alleged interference’).

- (2) The request must state—
 - (a) the second-mentioned person, and
 - (b) the alleged interference.

Communication through the medium of the Irish language

19C. In this Part, ‘communication through the medium of the Irish language’ means communication through the medium of the Irish language between two persons, in so far as such persons—

- (a) are in the State, and
- (b) seek to make use of the Irish language while communicating.

Interference with right to communicate through the medium of the Irish language

19D. (1) In this Part, the second-mentioned person shall be taken to have interfered with the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the Irish language with a third person in any of the following cases—

- (a) where the second-mentioned person notifies the first-mentioned person or the third person that certain communication should not be made through the medium of the Irish language,
- (b) where the second-mentioned person notifies the first-mentioned person or the third person that the first-mentioned person or the third person may be harmed as a result of certain communication made through the medium of the Irish language,
- (c) where the second-mentioned person, or a person acting on behalf of the second-mentioned person, causes harm to the first-mentioned person or the third person as a result of certain communication made through the medium of the Irish language.

(2) For the purposes of this Part, this Part applies irrespective of whether—

- (a) the second-mentioned person or another person has the authority to give such notice, and
- (b) the second-mentioned person or any other person has the authority to implement the notice.

(3) In this Part, any reference to harm shall include a reference to intimidation, bullying, harassment or stigmatisation.

Investigations

19E. (1) If the first-mentioned person makes a request to the Commissioner, the Commissioner shall decide whether or not to carry out an investigation of alleged interference. In so deciding, the Commissioner—

- (a) must have regard to the context in which the alleged interference occurred (including any relationship between the second-mentioned person and the first-mentioned person, and between the second-mentioned person and the third person),
 - (b) may request the first-mentioned person, the second-mentioned person or any other person to provide information or observations relating to the alleged interference; and
 - (c) must, if he or she requests the first-mentioned person or the second-mentioned person to provide information or observations, provide them with the information relating to the investigation.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Commissioner from taking any matter that he or she considers relevant into consideration while deciding whether to carry out an investigation of alleged interference.
- (3) Where the Commissioner decides to carry out an investigation of alleged interference—
 - (a) he or she must inform the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person of the decision,
 - (b) he or she must provide information relating to the investigation to the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person (unless already provided under paragraph (c)),
 - (c) he or she may request the first-mentioned person, the second-mentioned person or any other person to provide information or observations in relation to the alleged interference, and
 - (d) he or she must, insofar as it is practicable, give the second-mentioned person an opportunity to respond to the allegations made by the first-mentioned person or by any other person.
- (4) Where the Commissioner decides not to carry out an investigation, he or she must inform the first-mentioned person—
 - (a) of the decision, and
 - (b) of the reasons for such decision.
- (5) The Commissioner must carry out the duties laid down under subsections (1) or (2) as soon as possible after making a decision.
- (6) In this section, “information relating to the investigation” includes information regarding—
 - (a) the procedure for carrying out investigations under this section, and
 - (b) the powers of the Commissioner in relation to such investigations.
- (7) The Commissioner may, at any time, terminate an investigation of an alleged interference. Where he or she so decides, he or she must—

- (a) inform the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person of the decision, and
- (b) inform the first-mentioned person of the reasons for so deciding, as soon as possible after such making the decision.

Determination of alleged interference

- 19F.** (1) Where the Commissioner decides to carry out an investigation of alleged interference and not to terminate the investigation, the Commissioner must determine whether or not the second-mentioned person has interfered with the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the Irish language.
- (2) Where the Commissioner determines that the second-mentioned person has interfered with the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the Irish language, the Commissioner must give his or her observations on the interference (including whether or not the interference was justified in his or her opinion).
- (3) Before making his or her determination or observations under this section, the Commissioner must—
- (a) inform the second-mentioned person of the determination and the observations the Commissioner intends to make, and
 - (b) insofar as is practicable, give the second-mentioned person an opportunity to respond to the proposed determination and observations.
- (4) The Commissioner must inform the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person of his or her determination in relation to the request from the first-mentioned person, and of his or her observations, where he or she determines that the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the Irish language was interfered with, as soon as possible after making a determination.
- (5) The Commissioner may advise the first-mentioned person, the second-mentioned person or any other person regarding—
- (a) the alleged interference, or
 - (b) any matter relating to the alleged interference.

Report on Determinations

- 19G.** (1) The Commissioner may prepare a report, and submit it to the Minister, regarding—
- (a) the request, and
 - (b) the action made by the Commissioner in response to the request.

- (2) The Commissioner must provide the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person with a copy of any such report that relates to them.
- (3) The Commissioner may publish a report submitted to the Minister, or a version of the report, or other documents relating, in whole or in part, to the matters contained in the report, if—
 - (a) he or she informs the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person of his or her intention to publish the document,
 - (b) insofar as is practicable, he or she gives the first-mentioned person, the second-mentioned person or any other person as the Commissioner considers appropriate, an opportunity to inform the Commissioner of her or her opinions regarding publishing the documents publicly, and
 - (c) the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person agree to the document being published publicly, or the Commissioner is of the opinion that it is in the public interest to publish the document publicly. While making a determination as regards to the public interest, the Commissioner shall have regard to the interest of the first-mentioned person and the second-mentioned person, and the interest of any other person as the Commissioner considers appropriate.
- (4) Where the Commissioner decides that the second-mentioned person did not interfere with the right of the first-mentioned person to communicate through the medium of the Irish language, the identity of the second-mentioned person shall not be disclosed in any document or report published publicly.

Use of Irish in the Workplace

- 19H.** (1) An employer may not prevent any of his or her employees from speaking or writing in the Irish language or from saying or writing the Irish language version of an Irish placename in the course of his or her employment, except in specific cases on certain occasions, the employer can objectively prove that the prohibition on speaking or writing in the Irish language is necessary to carry out the business of the employer.
- (2) Where the Commissioner determines, pursuant to an investigation conducted pursuant to Part 4, that an employer has contravened subsection (1), the Commissioner may order such employer to pay compensation not exceeding €5,000 to the employee to whom such contravention relates.

Right to use Irish in Annual Report

- 19I.** The Commissioner's annual report shall, in accordance with section 30 of this Act, make reference to—

- (a) the requests made to the Commissioner in the period to which the report relates,
- (b) the actions taken by the Commissioner in response to the requests made during that period, and
- (c) the observations of the Commissioner in respect of the adequacy and effectiveness of the legislation in relation to the right of persons who wish to use the Irish language.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

276. In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 19 of Principal Act

8. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after section 19:

“Injunctions in relation to contraventions

- 19A.** (1) Where a public body fails or refuses or neglects to comply with any provision of this Act or any provision of regulations made pursuant to this Act, the High Court may, by order, on application by any person, whether or not such person has a particular interest in such failure or refusal or neglect, require any public body, by order, to do or refrain from doing, or cease from doing, as the case may be, anything that the Court considers necessary and specifies in the order, in order for the public body to comply with any provision of this Act or any provision of regulations so made pursuant to this Act.
- (2) An application to the High Court for an order under this section shall be by motion and the Court, when considering the matter, may make such interim or interlocutory order (if any) as it considers appropriate.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

277. In page 32, between lines 33 and 34, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 21 of Principal Act

8. Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following paragraphs after paragraph (f):

- “(g) to examine each Bill initiated in the Houses of the Oireachtas and to report on the impact that Bill would have, if passed, on the status and use of the official languages of the State and such report shall be published in the Explanatory Memorandum of the Bill, and
- (h) to examine each strategy of the State, the Government or any public body in relation to the status or use of an official language and to report annually to each House of the Oireachtas thereon.”.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

278. In page 32, to delete lines 35 to 39 and substitute the following:

“Amendment of section 21 of Principal Act

The Principal Act is amended by the substitution of the following section for section 21:

“Functions of Commissioner

- 21.** (1) The functions of the Commissioner shall be, in addition to any functions conferred on him or her by any other provision of this Act—
- (a) to monitor compliance by public bodies with the provisions of this Act, or with the provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language,
 - (b) to take all necessary measures within his or her authority to ensure compliance by public bodies with the provisions of this Act, or the provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language,
 - (c) to carry out investigations, whether on his or her own initiative, on request by the Minister or pursuant to a complaint made to him or her by any person, into any failure by a public body to comply with the provisions of this Act that he or she or, as appropriate, the Minister, considers may have occurred,
 - (d) to provide, as he or she considers appropriate, advice or other assistance to the public regarding their rights under this Act, or under the provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language,
 - (e) to provide, as he or she considers appropriate, advice or other assistance to public bodies regarding their obligations under this Act, or under provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language, and
 - (f) to carry out an investigation, whether on his or her own initiative, on request by the Minister or pursuant to a complaint made to him or her by any person, to ascertain whether any provision of any other enactment relating to the status or use of an official language was not or is not being complied with.
- (2) The Language Commissioner shall have the authority to decide to carry out a scrutiny on, and to scrutinize, any piece of legislation or any Bill brought before the Oireachtas, or any report, or any scheme or proposals issued by a public body, to ascertain whether it is contrary to the promotion of either of the two official languages of the State. Following that scrutiny by the Language Commissioner, he or she shall lay a report on the results of the scrutiny before the Houses of the Oireachtas.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

279.In page 32, line 35, to delete “Section 21 of” and substitute “(1) Section 21 of”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

280.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (b):

‘(bb) to take all necessary measures within his or her authority to ensure that public bodies comply with the provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language.’.

(3) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (d):

‘(dd) to provide, as he or she considers appropriate, advice or other assistance to the public regarding their rights under provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language,’.

(4) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following paragraph after paragraph (e):

‘(ee) to provide, as he or she considers appropriate, advice or other assistance to public bodies regarding their obligations under provisions of any other Act relating to the use of an official language, and’.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

281.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “may have occurred,” in paragraph (c):

“including a case in which the Commissioner decides that a derogation from a language standard was granted in accordance with section 19C without a satisfactory reason or plan in accordance with subsection (2) of that section”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

282.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following after “or is not being complied with” in paragraph (f):

“, or whether any provision of a Bill before the Oireachtas is contrary to the promotion of Irish as the first official language or to the language rights of any person”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

283.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) Section 21 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the

following after “or is not being complied with” in paragraph (f):

“, or whether any strategy, scheme, proposal or report prepared or issued by the State, Government or any public body in relation to the status or use of an official language is contrary to the promotion of Irish as the first official language or to the language rights of any person”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

284.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) After consulting with An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, the Minister shall prepare and submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas laying out the possibilities for giving An Coimisinéir Teanga a function, based on the function of the Welsh Language Commissioner, relating to the protection of the principle that the national language shall not be dealt with on a less favourable basis than the English language.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

285.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) After consulting with An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, the Minister shall prepare and submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas laying out the possibilities for giving An Coimisinéir Teanga a function, where a service is requested which is not covered under the legislation or in the language standards prescribed in accordance with section 19, in order to establish the principle that a public body shall make every practical effort to provide that service in the official language chosen by the requester.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

286.In page 32, line 39, to insert the following after “an official language,”.”:

“(2) After consulting with An Coimisinéir Teanga, and not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, the Minister shall prepare and submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas laying out the possibilities for giving An Coimisinéir Teanga additional functions in relation to:

- (a) investigating if derogations from a language standard in accordance with section 19C were granted without a satisfactory reason or plan in accordance with subsection (2) of that section;
- (b) investigating whether any provision of a Bill before the Oireachtas, or a strategy, scheme, proposal or report prepared or issued by a public body in relation to the status or use of an official language, are contrary to the promotion of Irish as the first official language or to the language rights of any person.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

287. In page 32, after line 39, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 27 of Principal Act

9. Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section instead of section 27:

“27. (1) The Commissioner may order that a public body pay compensation not exceeding €5,000 to any person or persons as may be designated by the Commissioner in respect of any failure, specified in a report by the Commissioner under section 26, by the body to comply with the provisions of this Act.

(2) A public body to which an order pursuant to subsection (1) relates may appeal to the High Court on a point of law against the decision in accordance with the stages provided for in section 28.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

288. In page 32, after line 39, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 27 of Principal Act

9. Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution of “The Minister, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, shall establish a scheme of compensation, not later than 31 December 2022,” for “The Minister may, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, make a scheme of compensation” in subsection (1).”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

289. In page 32, after line 39, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 27 of Principal Act

9. Section 27 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) The Minister must, following consultation with the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, and not later than one year after the coming into operation of this provision, prepare and submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas setting out a recommended timeline and the possibilities for the establishment of a scheme in accordance with subsection (1).”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

290. In page 34, to delete lines 4 to 11 and substitute the following:

“Amendment of section 31 of Principal Act

8. The Principal Act is amended by the substitution of the following section for section 31:

“Establishment of Placenames Commission

“31. (1) The Minister shall, by order, establish a commission, to be known as An Coimisiún Logainmneacha, to do the following:

- (a) examine the Irish language version of placenames, namely—
 - (i) the names of townlands, parishes, baronies, districts and other areas of the country,
 - (ii) the postal names of towns, villages, large towns and cities, and
 - (iii) the names of other principal places not included under subparagraphs (i) and (ii);
 - (b) research the original correct Irish language version of those placenames in so far as they had, or have, an Irish language version and certify such Irish language versions; and
 - (c) prepare lists of the Irish language versions of such placenames for publication and official use.
- (2) The Minister shall ensure the following:
- (a) that the person who is appointed as an independent Chairperson has the required level of competence in the Irish language and has certain experience and expertise in relation to the Irish language version of placenames and the person appointed shall not be employed by a public body falling within paragraph 1(1) of the First Schedule while performing his or her duties as Chairperson;
 - (b) that all other members appointed to the Commission have the required level of competence in the Irish language and have certain experience and expertise in relation to the Irish language version of placenames.
- (3) The Minister may do anything by regulations which he or she considers necessary or expedient to give effect to this section and to regulate An Coimisiún Logainmneacha, including the extension of the functions of the Commission referred to in subsection (1).”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

291. In page 34, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of Principal Act – insertion of sections 31A to 31C

11. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following sections after section 31:

“Establishment of Placenames Committee

31A. (1) On the commencement of *section 11 of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021* there shall stand established a committee to be known as the Placenames Committee.

(2) The secretariat and the executive functions of the Placenames

Committee shall be provided by the Minister.

Membership of Placenames Committee

31B. (1) The Placenames Committee shall consist of the following members—

- (a) a Chairperson, and
 - (b) not less than 7 and not more than 10 ordinary members,
each of whom shall be appointed by the Minister.
- (2) The Minister shall designate one member of the Placenames Committee as Chairperson.
- (3) The Placenames Committee shall consist of persons who are competent in the Irish language, and—
- (a) have experience of, or expertise in, matters relating to placenames, or both, or
 - (b) are experts in Irish history.
- (4) A member of the Placenames Committee shall be subject to such terms and conditions and be paid such allowances for expenses as the Minister may, with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, determine.
- (5) If the Chairperson is for any reason unable to continue to act as Chairperson, the Minister may designate another member of the Placenames Committee to act as Chairperson.
- (6) A member of the Placenames Committee shall hold office for such period not exceeding 3 years from the date of his or her appointment, as the Minister shall determine.
- (7) Subject to subsection (8), a member of the Placenames Committee whose term of office expires by the effluxion of time shall be eligible for reappointment to the Placenames Committee.
- (8) A member of the Placenames Committee who has served 2 consecutive terms of office shall not be eligible for reappointment to the Placenames Committee until a period of 3 years has elapsed following the end of the second consecutive term.
- (9) A member of the Placenames Committee may resign from the Placenames Committee by letter addressed to the Minister, and the resignation shall take effect on the date specified in the letter, or the date on which the Minister receives the letter, whichever is the later.
- (10) A member of the Placenames Committee may at any time be removed from membership of the Placenames Committee by the Minister if, in the Minister's opinion, the member has become incapable through ill-health of performing his or her functions, or has committed stated misbehaviour, or his or her removal appears to the Minister to be

necessary for the effective performance by the Placenames Committee of its functions.

- (11) A member of the Placenames Committee shall cease to be, and shall be disqualified from being, a member of the Placenames Committee where such member—
- (a) on conviction on indictment by a court of competent jurisdiction is sentenced to a term of imprisonment, or
 - (b) is subject or is deemed to be subject to a disqualification order, within the meaning of Chapter 4 of Part 14 of the Companies Act 2014, whether by virtue of that Chapter or any other provision of that Act.
- (12) The Minister shall determine the procedures of the Placenames Committee.

Functions of Placenames Committee

31C. (1) The Placenames Committee shall—

- (a) provide advice to the Minister regarding the making of placenames orders under section 32,
 - (b) carry out, or commission, research in relation to placenames,
 - (c) provide, on request, such information to the public and to public bodies regarding placenames as the Placenames Committee considers appropriate, and
 - (d) have such other functions as the Minister may, from time to time, prescribe.
- (2) In carrying out its functions under subsection (1), the Placenames Committee shall, to such extent as it considers necessary for that purpose, take into account and provide to the Minister any work or advice completed by the body known as An Coimisiún Logainmneacha, established by warrant of the Minister for Finance dated the 24th day of October 1946, and the non-statutory committee (known as the placenames committee) in existence before the commencement of *section 11* of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*.”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

292. In page 34, lines 8 to 11, to delete all words from and including “Section” in line 8 down to and including line 11 and substitute the following:

“Section 32(1) of the Principal Act is amended by the substitution of “Placenames Committee” for “Commission”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

293.In page 34, line 8, to delete “is amended by” and substitute the following:

“is amended by—

(a) the substitution of the following for “(1) Subject to”:

“(1) The Minister, in consultation with an expert on Irish language placenames, and not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, shall review the work carried out by An Coimisiún Logainmneacha, established by warrant of the Minister for Finance dated the 24th day of October 1946, and prepare and submit a report to the Houses of the Oireachtas laying out possibilities and practical recommendations for the re-establishment of the Commission as a permanent body, to ensure that the standard of work taking place in respect of examining, researching and listing the Irish versions of placenames by the State does not decline as a result of the work of that Commission having ceased and to ensure that the role of the State as regards the confirmation of Irish versions of placenames is fulfilled based on research, international best practice and the input of expert and independent persons with Irish.

(2) Subject to”, and

(3) three”.’.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

294.In page 34, line 9, after “persons” to insert “with the required level of competence in the Irish language”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

295.In page 34, line 10, to delete “as he or she considers appropriate” and substitute “in particular Irish language version of placenames.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

296.In page 34, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 33 of Principal Act

12. Section 33 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) (a) No placename in the State, which is named, in any language, in honour of a person, including foreign kings and queens, who destroyed the culture of the Irish people on behalf of a foreign power, who pillaged land in organised plantations, or who benefited from imperial colonial campaigns or who participated therein, in the slave trade, or in injustice or exclusion against women, the poor or a disadvantaged minority in Ireland or abroad, shall apply or have effect from 1 January 2025.

(b) It shall be a duty of a local authority to carry out an investigation of

placenames contravening paragraph (a) and to choose an alternative old placename or new placename, in consultation with the local community, for each such placename, before 1 January 2023.

- (c) If a particular local authority does not succeed in choosing a new placename before the date mentioned in paragraph (b), or if another such placename as is mentioned in paragraph (a) comes to light at a later stage which had not been observed in the local scrutiny, the Minister shall declare a new placename, in consultation with the local community and with the body referred to in section 31, and no later than 1 January 2024 or one year after a placename comes to light as a placename which contravenes paragraph (a).
- (d) The new placename shall apply and have effect in accordance with paragraph (a), as on and from the date of it being declared by the local authority or the Minister, as appropriate, but without prejudice to anything done before or after that date including the use of that version other than its use—
 - (i) in any Act of the Oireachtas passed after the declared date or in any statutory instrument made after that date under any Act,
 - (ii) in such maps, prepared and published after the declared date by or with the permission of Ordnance Survey Ireland, as prescribed,
 - (iii) on a new or restored road or street sign erected by or on behalf of a local authority after the declared date, or
 - (iv) on a new or restored sign or advertisement, or in official correspondence or communication, erected or issued in the Irish language, in the English language, or in any other language, by any public body, or third party providing a service to the public on behalf of a public body after the abovementioned date.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

297. In page 34, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Amendment of sections 33 and 34 of Principal Act

12. The Principal Act is amended—

- (a) in section 33, by the substitution of the following subsections for subsections (1) and (2):
 - “(1) Only the Irish language version of a placename, including accents on vowels, shall apply and have effect as on and from 1 January 2025 but without prejudice to anything done before or after that date including the use of that version other than its use—
 - (a) in any Act of the Oireachtas passed after the abovementioned date or in any statutory instrument made after that date under any Act,

- (b) in such maps, prepared and published after the abovementioned date by or with the permission of Ordnance Survey Ireland, as prescribed,
 - (c) on a new or restored road or street sign erected by or on behalf of a local authority after the abovementioned date, or
 - (d) on a new or restored sign or advertisement, or in official correspondence or communication, erected or issued in the Irish language, in the English language, or in any other language, by any public body, or third party providing a service to the public on behalf of a public body, including public transport services, after the abovementioned date.
- (2) The Minister may, after consultation with the body referred to in section 31 of this Act pursuant to an application by a local authority regarding a particular place or site administered by such local authority, and only in an exceptional case where particular heritage or economic value attaches to the visibility of another version of its placename, by order, declare that a version of the placename in a language other than the Irish language may be used on maps or on a sign or on an advertisement or in official correspondence or communication together with the official Irish language placename.
- (3) Every order to which subsection (2) applies shall be laid by the Minister before each House of the Oireachtas as soon as may be after it is made and, if a resolution annulling the order is passed by either such House within the next 21 days on which that House has sat after the order is laid before it, the order shall be annulled accordingly but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done thereunder.
- (4) A declaration under subsection (2) shall not be permitted—
- (a) in relation to any place in a Gaeltacht area, in accordance with the Gaeltacht Act 2012,
 - (b) in relation to any placename whose version in the other language or languages is pronounced as the official Irish language placename is pronounced, or
 - (c) in relation to affording State recognition to an English language placename created as part of the efforts of the Ordnance Survey to anglicise native placenames between 1824 and 1846.
- (5) Where the Minister makes a declaration under subsection (2), the official Irish language placename shall be written in larger and more visible print than the other language or languages.
- (6) In the case of a conflict or dispute regarding a placename in any location in the State, the body referred to in section 31 of this Act shall make a determination as to the correct official version, and all public

bodies shall adhere to its determinations.”,

- (b) in section 34, by the substitution of “and in other languages as appropriate in accordance with the Official Languages Act 2003” for “or in the English and Irish languages”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

298. In page 34, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Amendment of Principal Act

- 32.** Part 6 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 36:

“37. (1) In this section, ‘Act of 1979’ means the *Údarás na Gaeltachta Act 1979*.

- (2) This section recognises the role of *Údarás na Gaeltachta* under section 8(1) of the Act of 1979 as the main public body in encouraging the preservation and extension of the use of the Irish language as the principal medium of communication in the Gaeltacht, and the role of the Gaeltacht Civil Rights Movement in its establishment.

- (3) In order to ensure the participation of the Gaeltacht community in the development and advancement of the Irish language in the Gaeltacht the Minister may, with the consent of the Minister for Finance and both Houses of the Oireachtas, amend the Act of 1979 as follows—

- (a) in section 6 by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (2):

‘(2) (a) An *tÚdarás* shall consist of a chairperson, who shall be appointed by the Minister, and twenty other members, of whom eighteen shall be persons elected in accordance with Part IV and two shall be persons appointed by the Minister.

- (b) Any person who is not sufficiently competent in the Irish language to be able to make use of it without difficulty during his or her work shall be ineligible to be a member of the Board of an *tÚdarás*.’;

- (b) the substitution of the following section for section 29:

‘29. (1) Each of the following areas shall be a constituency for the purposes of this Part:

- (a) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Donegal, except for sea-girt islands in those parts;
 - (b) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Mayo, except for sea-girt islands in those parts;
 - (c) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the

county of Galway, except for sea-girt islands in those parts;

- (d) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Meath;
- (e) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Kerry;
- (f) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Cork, except for sea-girt islands in those parts;
- (g) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht situated in the county of Waterford;
- (h) the area comprising those parts of the Gaeltacht which are sea-girt islands.

(2) In an election—

- (a) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(a) shall return four persons,
- (b) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(b) shall return two persons,
- (c) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(c) shall return six persons,
- (d) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(d) shall return one person,
- (e) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(e) shall return two persons,
- (f) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(f) shall return one person,
- (g) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(g) shall return one person, and
- (h) the constituency specified in subsection (1)(h) shall return one person.’;

and

- (c) in the First Schedule, by the substitution of the following paragraph for paragraphs 2 and 3:

‘2. A member of an tÚdarás, other than a member appointed in accordance with section 6(2)(a)(vi), shall, unless he or she sooner dies, resigns, becomes disqualified or is removed from office, hold office, for a period not exceeding five years.’.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

299. In page 34, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Amendment of Principal Act

12. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 36:

“Prevention of the prohibition of the Irish language in the workplace

37. (1) An employer may not prevent any of his or her employees from speaking or writing in the Irish language or from saying or writing the Irish language version of an Irish placename in the course of his or her employment, except in specific cases on certain occasions where the employer can objectively prove that the prohibition on speaking or writing in the Irish language is necessary to carry out the business of the employer.

(2) Where the Commissioner determines, pursuant to an investigation conducted pursuant to Part 4, that an employer has contravened subsection (1), the Commissioner may order such employer to pay compensation not exceeding €5,000 to the employee to whom such contravention relates.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

300. In page 34, between lines 11 and 12, to insert the following:

“Amendment of Principal Act

12. The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 36:

“Members of State boards

37. In nominating members of State boards, the Government Minister concerned shall ensure that the Irish-speaking community is represented on all State boards.”.

—Catherine Connolly.

301. In page 34, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“(ii) by the substitution of the following subparagraph for subparagraph (4):

“(4) all new bodies, organisations or groups that are established by a Minister of the Government or in an Act of the Houses of the Oireachtas after the coming into operation of this Act and receive moneys directly from a Minister of the Government, a Department of State, the Central Fund or another public body in circumstances where the amount or aggregate of the amounts so received constitutes 50 per cent or more of the current expenditure of that body, organisation or group in a financial year, or in which the majority of the shares are held by or on behalf of a Minister of the Government, except where both Houses of the Oireachtas agree

that the new body shall not come within the scope of this Act.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

302. In page 34, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“(ii) by the substitution of the following subparagraph for subparagraph (4):

“(4) all bodies, organisations or groups that receive moneys directly from a Minister of the Government, a Department of State, the Central Fund or another public body in circumstances where the amount or aggregate of the amounts so received constitutes 50 per cent or more of the current expenditure of that body, organisation or group in a financial year, or in which the majority of the shares are held by or on behalf of a Minister of the Government.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

303. In page 34, between lines 28 and 29, to insert the following:

“(c) by the substitution of “the Central Bank of Ireland and every body under its control that operates as a retail bank which receives moneys directly from a Minister of the Government, a Department of State, the Central Fund or another public body in circumstances where the amount or aggregate of the amounts so received constitutes 20 per cent or more of the current expenditure of that body, organisation or group in a financial year, or in which the majority of the shares are held by or on behalf of a Minister of the Government” for “the Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

304. In page 34, to delete lines 29 and 30 and substitute the following:

“(c) in paragraph 3, by the substitution of—

(i) “shall, at least once every 2 years and,” for “may,” and

(ii) “subparagraph (1) or (2)” for “subparagraph (2)”.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

305. In page 36, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 7 of Juries Act 1976

13. The Juries Act 1976 is amended by the substitution of the following section for section 7:

“Ineligibility

7. (1) The persons specified in Part I of the First Schedule shall be ineligible for jury service.

(2) Where the Irish language is the language which the accused has chosen to use in the proceedings before the court in any particular case, or if the court is sitting in a Gaeltacht area, any person who shall not have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in

the Irish language without the assistance of an interpreter shall be ineligible for such case.

- (3) Where the English language is the language which the accused has chosen in the proceedings before the court in any particular case, any person who shall not have the competence to understand evidence and submissions in the English language without the assistance of an interpreter will be ineligible for such case.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pearse Doherty, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

306.In page 36, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 33 of Principal Act

- 13.** Section 33 of the Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection after subsection (3):

“(4) In any placename declared by the Minister or by a local authority for any new development from the implementation of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*, only the Irish language version shall be declared and only the Irish placename shall have force and effect.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

307.In page 36, between lines 6 and 7, to insert the following:

“Amendment of the Principal Act

- 13.** The Principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following section after section 36:

“**37.** The Minister shall, in consultation with the Minister for Finance, and no later than 6 months from the coming into operation of the *Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021*, prepare, issue and submit a report to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Irish language, the Gaeltacht and the Irish-speaking Community on the possibilities for strengthening the Irish language in the Gaeltacht by attracting public services and private investment with language conditions to Gaeltacht areas, including discounts on costs and the foundation of a Gaeltacht Free area based on the Shannon Free area.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

308.In page 36, between lines 13 and 14, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 33 of Garda Síochána Act 2005

- 14.** Section 33 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 is amended by the substitution of the following for subsection (2):

“(2) The Garda Commissioner shall ensure that all members of the Garda Síochána stationed in a district that includes a Gaeltacht area are

sufficiently competent in the Irish language to enable them to use it with facility in carrying out their duties by 31 December 2025.”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

309.In page 36, between lines 13 and 14, to insert the following:

“Amendment of section 33 of Garda Síochána Act 2005

- 14.** Section 33(3) of the Garda Síochána Act 2005, is amended, in the definition of “Gaeltacht area”, by the substitution of “has the same meaning it has in Part 2 of the Gaeltacht Act 2012” for “means an area for the time being determined to be a Gaeltacht area by order made under section 2 of the Ministers and Secretaries (Amendment) Act 1956”.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

310.In page 36, to delete lines 14 to 24.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

311.In page 36, to delete line 15 and substitute the following:

“Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Principal Act shall be repealed when every draft scheme which is prepared or to be prepared in accordance with a notice from the Minister under section 11 has been prepared and confirmed in accordance with section 14, and when every scheme which is confirmed or to be confirmed in accordance with section 14, including a revised schemes, has expired by the effluxion of time”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell.

312.In page 36, between lines 15 and 16, to insert the following:

“Abolition of An Coimisiún Logainmneacha

- 15.** For the avoidance of doubt and without prejudice to any work carried out by it, the body known as An Coimisiún Logainmneacha, established by warrant of the Minister for Finance dated the 24th day of October 1946, is abolished.”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.

313.In page 36, to delete lines 29 to 32 and substitute the following:

“(3) This Act shall come into operation the day after the passing of this Act, and with regard to the specific provisions of this Act, for which a day is fixed under this Act for such provisions to come into operation, they shall come into operation on that day, as is fixed for each of those provisions under this Act.”.

—Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Pa Daly, Mairéad Farrell, Catherine Connolly.

314.In page 36, line 29, to delete “day or days” and substitute “day or days, not later than 3 years after the passing of this Act,”.

—An tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán.