



An Bille um Ligean Ghearrthearma agus Turasóireacht, 2026
Short Term Letting and Tourism Bill 2026

Meabhrán Mínitheach
Explanatory Memorandum



**AN BILLE UM LIGEAN GHEARRTHÉARMA AGUS
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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Purpose of the Bill:

Part 1 Preliminary and General

The purpose of this Bill is to give full effect in national law to Regulation (EU) 2024/1028 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 on data collection and sharing relating to short-term accommodation rental services and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1724.

Regulation (EU) 2024/1028 establishes a harmonised framework across the European Union for the collection and sharing of data relating to short-term accommodation rental services, with the objective of improving transparency, supporting evidence-based policymaking and facilitating proportionate enforcement measures in the short-term letting sector.

The Bill designates Fáilte Ireland, the National Tourism Development Authority, as the competent authority for the purposes of the Regulation and provides it with the powers necessary to perform its functions. These functions include the establishment, operation and maintenance of a national register of short-term lettings, the operation of the Single Digital Entry Point, and the collection, processing, exchange and sharing of registration and short-term rental data in accordance with the Regulation.

The Bill requires hosts offering short-term accommodation rental services to obtain and maintain a valid registration number and to display that number in advertisements and listings. It also imposes obligations on online short-term rental platforms relating to the verification and display of registration numbers, the submission of required data, and the removal or disabling of access to non-compliant listings.

To support compliance and enforcement, the Bill empowers Fáilte Ireland to appoint registration officers and authorised officers to conduct inspections and investigations, require the production of information and records, and investigate suspected contraventions of the Act and the Regulation. The Bill provides for a range of enforcement measures, including fixed payment notices, summary offences and an administrative sanctions regime.

In cases involving more serious contraventions, Fáilte Ireland may refer matters to a Panel of Adjudication Officers appointed by the Minister. The Panel may determine whether a contravention has occurred

and, where appropriate, impose financial sanctions, including, in the case of online short-term rental platforms, fines of up to 2 per cent of annual worldwide turnover.

The Bill provides for cooperation between Fáilte Ireland, other competent authorities and relevant public bodies, and amends the Tourist Traffic Acts and related legislation to facilitate the collection, retention, processing and sharing of short-term rental data, thereby supporting the development of a comprehensive and transparent regulatory framework for the short-term letting sector.

In addition, the Bill provides for the establishment of a register of limited stays in student-specific accommodation, updates existing provisions relating to the registration of hotels, guesthouses, hostels, holiday camps, caravan sites and camping sites to reflect modern regulatory, operational and data management requirements and repeals obsolete provisions relating to motor hotels, holiday cottages and holiday apartments

The Bill also amends the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, by the insertion of a new section, 83A, to suspend the requirement for planning permission in respect of a material change in use to short-term letting for a period of 2 years in population centres under 20,000 persons.

Overall, the Bill seeks to improve transparency regarding the scale and location of tourist accommodation in the State, support sustainable tourism development, and assist public authorities in balancing the needs of the tourism sector, local communities and the housing market through the availability of accurate and reliable data.

Section 1: Short title and commencement contain the short title and commencement provisions.

Section 2: Definitions define key terms used in the Act including definitions of the National Tourism Development Authority Act 2003 (“Act of 2003”) and the Tourist Traffic Act 1939 (“Principal Act”).

Section 3: Repeals Section 23, 36, 37A, 37C, 37D and 38 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1939, Section 31 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1952 and Section 3 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1983. These Sections are being repealed as the provisions are no longer necessary/relevant, having been replaced by the provisions of this Bill.

Part 2 Amendment of Tourist Traffic Act 1939

Chapter 1, Amendment of Part I.

Section 4: Amendment of Section 2 of the principal Act (Definitions), to provide for the insertion of definitions for the purposes of the Act. The definitions clarify the meaning of key terms used in the Act and are intended to ensure consistency and certainty in the interpretation and application of its provisions.

Chapter 2, Amendment of Part II.

Section 5: Regulations sets out that the Minister and the Authority can make regulations in relation to matters prescribed under the Act. The regulation-making power is intended to facilitate the effective operation and administration of the Act by allowing detailed and technical matters to be specified in secondary legislation. Subsection (4) confirms that such regulations would be laid before each House of the Oireachtas within 21 days.

Chapter 3, Amendment of Part III.

Section 6: Delegation of a function of the Authority to a committee inserts a new, Section 23A, into the Principal Act to provide that the delegation of a function of the Authority to a committee does not include the functions conferred by sections 27A, 47C or 47D of the Act. These sections concern the functions of the Competent Authority in managing and enforcing registration procedures for short-term letting units and collecting data, the operation of the Single Digital Entry Point and the issuing of orders by the Competent Authority under Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1028.

Section 7: Amendment of Section 24 of the principal Act (The Registers and their contents), to provide for a register of Hostels by the deletion of the word ‘Holiday’ from paragraph (c), and for the deletion of paragraphs (d) the register of Youth Hostels, (f) the register of Motor Hotels, (h) the register of approved holiday cottages and (i) the register of holiday apartments. This section further provides for the insertion of a new paragraph (j) to provide for the establishment of a register of limited stays in student specific accommodation and (k) to provide for the establishment of a register of Short Term Lettings.

Section 8: Amendment of Section 25 of the Principal Act (Eligibility for registration in the respective registers), arising from the amendments made to Section 24 of the Act to ensure consistency within the Act and to reflect the revised provisions introduced by this Bill. This section enables the Authority to prescribe the general character, type of accommodation and services provided, and other qualifications required for premises to be eligible for registration in the registers established under the Act, other than the register of short-term lettings. Matters relating to the registration of a unit in the register of short-term lettings are governed by the Short term Accommodation Regulation (EU 2024/1028) and are therefore excluded from the scope of this provision.

Section 9: Amendment of Section 26 of the Principal Act (Applications for registration), arising from the amendments made to Section 24 and 25 of the Act. The purpose of these amendments is to ensure that references and operative provisions are consistent with the revised legislative framework. The provisions in this section do not apply to the registration of a unit in the register of short Term Lettings.

Section 10: Amendment of Section 27 of the Principal Act (Registration of premises), to update provisions for the inspection and determination of an application for the registration of a premises on any the registers other than the register of Short Term Lettings. This section introduces an independent appeal mechanism for cases where the Authority refuses the application for registration.

Section 11: Competent Authorities for the purpose of Short Term Accommodation Regulation, inserts new Sections, 27A, 27B, 27C, and 27D, into the Principal Act to give effect to provisions in the Short term Accommodation Regulation (EU2024/1028).

Section 27A designates Fáilte Ireland as the competent authority responsible for managing and enforcing the national registration system for short-term letting units and for collecting data for the purposes of the Short term Accommodation Regulation.

Section 27B provides for matters relating to the registration fee and renewal fee for a short-term letting unit. The fee prescribed by Fáilte Ireland must be reasonable and proportionate, in accordance with the requirements of the Short term Accommodation Regulation. The

section also provides that the renewal fee must be lower than the initial registration fee.

Section 27C provides for the registration of a unit in the register of Short-Term Lettings and requires hosts to provide a declaration and relevant information in accordance with Article 5(1) of the Short term Accommodation Regulation, together with any additional information required under the Act. This section also provides that any change in the information provided upon registration constitutes a material change that must be notified to the Competent Authority Fáilte Ireland.

Section 27D provides for the enforcement of certain obligations imposed on hosts of short-term letting units. It requires hosts to declare that a unit is subject to a registration procedure, to provide the registration number issued by the Competent Authority in any listing or advertisement, and to ensure that information provided to the Competent Authority and online short-term rental platforms is accurate. Failure to comply with these requirements constitutes a summary offence.

Section 12: Provisions relating to registration appeals officers and appeals, inserts new Sections, 27E and 27F, into the Principal Act to provide for the appointment of registration appeals officers by the Minister and appeals procedures relating to registration and grading determinations by the Authority.

Section 13: amends section 28 of the Principal Act (Duration of Registration) to provide that registrations for short-term letting remain in force for 12 months from the date on which the Authority issues the registration number, unless withdrawn, suspended or removed from the register at an earlier date. Such registrations will expire at the end of that period unless renewed. The section also provides that registrations for hotels, guesthouses, hostels, holiday camps, caravan sites and camping sites will continue to remain in force for a period of 12 months and registrations relating to limited stays in student-specific accommodation will remain in force for a period of three years, unless terminated under subsection (4) of section 28 or cancelled under section 32 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1952.

Section 14: Amendment of Section 29 of the Principal Act (Applications for renewal of registration), to provide for the renewal of registrations. Applications for the renewal of registration for short-term letting units must be made to the Authority not more than 30 days before the expiry of the 12-month registration period. Applications for the renewal of registration for hotels, guesthouses, hostels, holiday camps and caravan sites and camping sites must be made no later than 15 November preceding the registration year. Applications for renewal of registration in the register of limited stays in student-specific accommodation must be made not later than three months before the registration is due to expire. All applications for renewal must be made in the prescribed form and be accompanied by the prescribed fee and, where applicable, the prescribed scale of charges.

Section 15: Amendment of Section 30 of the Principal Act (Renewal of registration), provides for the inspection of premises by a registration officer in connection with an application for renewal of registration. Where an inspection of the premises has been carried out within the 90-day period preceding the renewal application, the Authority may rely on the existing inspection report for the purposes of the renewal process. In the case of premises registered in the register of limited stays in student-specific accommodation, inspections will be conducted outside

the academic term. These inspection provisions do not apply to short-term letting units.

Section 16: Amendment of Section 31 of the Principal Act (Registration certificates), provides that the Authority will issue, free of charge, a registration certificate containing a unique registration number upon the registration of a premises. It also updates the offences relating to the failure to display a registration certificate by removing the continuing offence and replacing it with a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine. This section does not apply to Short-Term Letting units.

Section 17: Amendment of Section 33 of the Principal Act (Restriction on describing premises as a hotel), provides that the proprietor or occupier of any premises offering hotel accommodation and services may not promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as a hotel unless the premises and proprietor are registered in the register of hotels. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine. This section includes a transitional provision of 270 days from the commencement of the relevant provisions to allow affected premises and proprietors sufficient time to comply with the registration requirements before enforcement measures apply.

Section 18: Amendment of Section 34 of the Principal Act (Restriction on describing premises as a guest house), updates the existing provision to provide that the proprietor or occupier of a guesthouse may not promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as a guesthouse unless the premises and proprietor are registered in the register of guesthouses. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine.

Section 19: Amendment of Section 35 of the Principal Act (Restriction on describing premises as a hostel), updates the existing provision to provide that the proprietor or occupier of a hostel may not promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as a hostel unless the premises and proprietor are registered in the register of hostels. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine.

Section 20: Amendment of Section 37 of the Principal Act (Restriction on describing premises as a holiday camp), updates the existing provision to provide that the proprietor or occupier of a holiday camp may not promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as a holiday camp unless the premises and proprietor are registered in the register of holiday camps. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine.

Section 21: Amendment of Section 37B of the Principal Act (Restriction on describing premises as caravan sites and camping sites), updates the existing provision to provide that the proprietor or occupier of a caravan site and camping site may not promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as a caravan site and camping site unless the premises and proprietor are registered in the register of a caravan sites and camping sites. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine.

Section 22: Inserts a new section, 37E into the Principal Act (Restriction concerning register of limited stays in student-specific accommodation), This section provides that it is an offence for the proprietor or occupier of premises where sleeping accommodation and related services may be provided outside academic term times in student-specific accommodation to promote, advertise, offer, describe or hold out or permit any person to describe or hold out the premises as providing limited stays in student-specific accommodation unless both the premises and the proprietor are registered in the register of limited stays in student-specific accommodation. The offence for non-compliance with this section is a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine. This section includes a transitional provision of 270 days from the commencement of the relevant provisions to allow affected premises and proprietors sufficient time to comply with the registration requirements before enforcement measures apply.

Section 23: Amendment of Section 39 of the Principal Act (Grades), to provide for the grading of premises by the Authority. It introduces a new appeal mechanism to enable the proprietor of a premises to appeal a decision by the Authority to allot a grade to a premises, refuse an application for grading or to withdraw or change a grade allotted to a premises. The section also updates the existing provision to prohibit a premises from holding itself out, describing itself, or promoting itself as having a particular grade unless that grade has been allotted to the premises by the Authority. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine. This section does not apply to Short-Term Letting units.

Section 24: Appointment of Registration Officers, inserts a new Section, 40A, into the Principal Act to provide for the appointment of registration officers by the Authority, with the approval of the Minister to

- (i) conduct inspections of premises in respect of an application for registration, renewal of registration or the grading of a premises and
- (ii) review and verify information provided by a host in relation to the registration of a Short Term Letting unit.

Section 25: Amendment of Section 41 of the Principal Act (Inspection and inspection report), to provide for the inspection of a premises and the provision of an inspection report in writing to the Authority by the registration officer. This section also creates offences where a person obstructs or impedes a registration officer in the performance of their functions, fails or refuses to provide information requested by a registration officer, fails to comply with a request made by a registration officer, or furnishes information that is false or misleading. Such offences are punishable on summary conviction by a Class A fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or both. This section does not apply to Short-Term Letting units.

Section 26: Provisions relating to Authorised Officers, inserts new Sections, 41A, 41B, 41C, 41D, and 41E into the Principal Act.

Section 41A provides for the appointment of authorised officers by the Authority, with the approval of the Minister to investigate compliance with the Act or the Short term Accommodation Regulation, to investigate suspected contraventions by online Short Term Rental platforms and to prepare a report concerning those investigations.

Section 41B and *41 C* confers on the authorised officers the powers necessary to exercise their investigatory functions provided for under

the Act including the powers to request information, enter premises with either the consent of the occupier or pursuant to a warrant under Section 41D, require a person at the premises to give assistance, produce records and/or reports, answer questions and assist with the use of data equipment, secure a premises for later inspection, inspect and take copies of records and take photographic or video evidence at the premises. Authorised officers may exercise these powers for the purposes of monitoring compliance with, and enforcing, the provisions of the Act and are required to provide a written report in relation to an investigation to the Authority.

Section 41D sets out the circumstances in which an authorised officer may apply to the District Court for a warrant authorising entry to a premises. It provides that, where the Court is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that information or records required by the authorised officer for the purposes of their functions may be found on the premises, it may issue a warrant authorising the authorised officer, accompanied where necessary, to enter, inspect and exercise the powers conferred under the Act.

Section 41E sets out the provisions relating to the obstruction or hindrance of an authorised officer in the performance of their functions under the Act. It provides that a person shall not withhold, destroy, conceal or refuse to provide information or records requested by an authorised officer, obstruct or impede an authorised officer, fail to comply with a lawful requirement of an authorised officer, or provide information that is knowingly false or misleading. Contravention of these provisions constitutes an offence and is punishable on summary conviction by a Class A fine.

Section 27: Amendment of Section 42 of the Principal Act (Evidence of the contents of registers), to provide for the inspection of the registers by any person and the provision of a copy of an entry or an extract from an entry to any person.

Section 28: Amendment of Section 43 of the Principal Act (Display of charges), to provide that the scale of charges for accommodation in a premises registered in any of the registers, other than the register of Short-Term Lettings, is to be displayed in the position, form and manner as prescribed by the Authority. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that accommodation charges are clearly visible and readily available to guests and prospective guests. Non-compliance with this requirement constitutes a summary offence punishable by a Class A fine.

Section 29: Amendment of Section 44 of the Principal Act (External signs), to provide for the display of the grading standard allotted to a premises by the Authority on the sign supplied by the Authority. It also prohibits a proprietor from holding out the premises as being registered by means of a sign placed outside the premises unless the premises is duly registered in the relevant register maintained by the Authority. Non-compliance with these requirements constitutes an offence and is punishable on summary conviction by a Class A fine.

Section 30: Amendment of Section 45 of the Principal Act (Publication of registration information), to provide for the publication of information relating to each premises registered in any of the registers maintained by the Authority, other than the register of Short-Term Lettings, on a quarterly basis. It also provides for the immediate publication of information relating to a unit registered in the register of Short-Term Lettings. The purpose of these provisions is to promote

transparency and ensure that up-to-date registration information is publicly available.

Section 31: Amendment of Section 46 of the Principal Act (Service of notices), sets out the accepted methods of giving notice or other documents to a person under the Act.

Section 32: Amendment of Section 47 of the Principal Act (Offences), to provide for the time limits within which summary proceedings for offences under the Act may be brought and prosecuted by the Authority.

Section 33: Fixed Payment Notice, inserts a new Section, 47A, into the Principal Act to provide for the service by the Authority of a Fixed Payment Notice on a person in respect of an alleged relevant offence. The section provides that, where a person is served with a Fixed Payment Notice and pays the specified amount within the prescribed period, no prosecution will be instituted in respect of that offence. The amount of the Fixed Payment Notice shall not exceed the maximum amount prescribed under the Act.

Chapter 4, Obligations of online short term rental platforms.

Section 34, Enforcement of obligations of online short term rental platforms, inserts new Sections, 47B, 47C, 47D, 47E, 47F, 47G, 47H, 47I, 47J, 47K and 47L into the Principal Act to provide for the enforcement of obligations of online short term rental platforms under the Short term Accommodation Regulation.

Section 47B provides that, for the purposes of the Short-Term Accommodation Regulation, a contravention means a failure by an online short term rental platform to comply with an order issued by the Authority under Article 6 (3), 6(4), 6(6), a compliance notice issued under Section 47D and Article 6 (11), failure to comply with Articles 7(2), 7(3), or 9(3), failure by an online short-term rental platform other than a small or micro online short-term rental platform to comply with Article 9(1), or failure by a small or micro online short term rental platform to comply with Article 9(2).

Section 47C designates the Authority, Fáilte Ireland, to be the authority responsible for the operation of the Single Digital Entry Point (SDEP) in accordance with the Short term Accommodation Regulation and for transmitting activity data. This section also provides for the transmission of data to Eurostat by the Central Statistics Office and the establishment of a list of competent authorities by the Minister to be made available through the SDEP.

Section 47D provides the Authority with the power to issue orders under Article 6 (3), 6(4) and 6(6) of the Short-Term Accommodation Regulation.

Section 47E deals with an infringement by an online short term rental platform of Article 6 (11) of the of the Short-Term Accommodation Regulation and provides the Authority with the power to issue a compliance notice. An online short term rental platform may appeal against the compliance notice to the District Court. Failure to comply with a compliance notice constitutes an offence and is punishable on summary conviction by a Class A fine or on conviction on indictment to a fine not exceeding €500,000.

Section 47F provides for the appointment of an Adjudication Panel including a Chief Adjudication Officer by the Minister.

Section 47G provides for the investigation by an Authorised Officer of a suspected contravention by an online short term rental platform. The Authorised Officer is required to provide a report of the investigation to the online short term rental platform concerned and to the Chief Adjudication Officer.

Section 47H provides for the Adjudication Panel to determine if an online short term rental platform has committed the contravention to which an investigation under *Section 47G* relates and to determine the amount of financial sanction to impose where the adjudication panel is satisfied that a contravention has occurred. The online short term rental platform may appeal the notice setting out the decision of the Adjudication Panel to impose a financial sanction to the High Court.

Section 47I provides for the holding of oral hearings where the Adjudication Panel considers such hearings necessary for the determination of a matter before it. It sets out the circumstances in which an oral hearing may be convened and the procedures applicable to the conduct of the hearing. The purpose of the provision is to ensure that affected persons have an opportunity to be heard and that the Adjudication Panel has access to all relevant evidence and information before reaching a determination.

Section 47J deals with orders for costs in proceedings before Adjudication Panels. The Adjudication Panel may award costs of proceedings against a respondent or the Authority where they have engaged in improper conduct in connection with an investigation of an alleged contravention or proceedings before the Adjudication Panel.

Section 47K provides for the determination by the Adjudication Panel of the amount of financial sanction to be imposed where it has found that a contravention has occurred. The section sets out the matters to be considered by the Adjudication Panel when determining the amount of financial sanction and provides that the amount shall be proportionate to the nature of the contravention, not exceed 2% of the online short term rental platform's annual income or turnover or cause the platform concerned to cease trading.

Section 47L sets out the functions of the Minister under the Short term Accommodation Regulation, to monitor the implementation of the obligations laid down in this Regulation in the State and to appoint a national coordinator for matters relating to the Single Digital Entry Point.

Part 3 Amendments

Chapter 1, Amendments of the Act of 2003 concerning Data, cooperation, information and contractors.

Section 35: Amendment of Section 2 of the Act of 2003 (Interpretation), to provide for the insertion of definitions for the purposes of the Act. The definitions clarify the meaning of key terms used in the Act and are intended to ensure consistency and certainty in the interpretation and application of its provisions.

Section 36: Amendment of Section 8 of the Act of 2003 (Functions of Authority), amends subsection (c) to align the functions of the Authority with the provisions of the Tourist Traffic Acts relating to the establishment and maintenance of registers. The amendment clarifies the Authority's role in establishing and maintaining the relevant registers of tourism accommodation and ensures consistency with the registration framework and related provisions of the Act.

Section 37: Information and co-operation, inserts new Sections, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D and 8E into the Act of 2003.

Section 8A provides for the retention by the Authority of short-term letting activity data and other information transmitted to it by online short-term rental platforms pursuant to Article 9(1) of the Short-Term Rental Accommodation Regulation and information provided by hosts under Article 5(1)(a)(i) to (iv) of the Regulation when registering a unit in the register of short-term lettings.

Section 8B provides the legal basis for the disclosure and processing of data, including personal data, between the Authority and other bodies including a Local Authority, Coimisiún na Meán and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission for the purpose of performing their respective functions under the Tourist Traffic Act 1939, Short term Accommodation Regulation, Digital Services Regulation Act, Digital Services Act 2024 and the Broadcasting Act 2009.

Section 8C provides that the Authority may enter into data sharing agreements with other bodies including Local Authority/s, Coimisiún na Meán and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission for the purpose of performing their respective functions under the Tourist Traffic Act 1939, Short term Accommodation Regulation, Digital Services Regulation Act, Digital Services Act 2024 and the Broadcasting Act 2009.

Section 8D provides for the disclosure of Short term Letting activity data and information provided by a host when registering a unit in the register of Short Term Lettings, that does not contain any data that may identify a host or a unit, for policy or research purposes. This information can be disclosed to the Minister, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to facilitate the development of Government policy and with entities or persons carrying out scientific research, analytical activities or developing new business models.

Section 8E provides for a co-operation agreement the Authority, Coimisiún na Meán and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission for the purpose of performing their respective functions under Article 7 (2), 7 (3) and 9 of the Short term Accommodation Regulation, and to enable Coimisiún na Meán to perform its functions under section 7 (6) (b) of the Broadcasting Act 2009. This section also provides for co-operation between the Authority and the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in the performance of their respective functions under Articles 7(1) and 8 of the Short-term Accommodation Regulation and to enable the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission to perform the functions conferred on it under Part 3 of the Digital Services Act 2024.

Section 38: Amendment of Section 11 of the Act of 2003 (Delegation of Functions), to align the functions of the Authority with section 23A of the Tourist Traffic Act 1939, which provides that the delegation of a function of the Authority to a committee does not extend to the functions conferred by sections 27A, 47C or 47D of the Act. These functions relate to the Authority's role as the Competent Authority in administering and enforcing the registration requirements for short-term letting units, collecting and managing registration data, operating the Single Digital Entry Point, and issuing orders under Article 6 of the Short term Accommodation Regulation. The amendment clarifies that these functions must be exercised by the Authority and may not be delegated to a committee.

Section 39: Amendment of Section 22 of the Act of 2003 (Confidential information), to regulate the disclosure of confidential

information acquired in the performance of functions for the Authority and specifies the circumstances in which disclosure is permitted. It applies to members and staff of the Authority, contractors and their employees, advisers and consultants and their staff, committee members, registration appeals officers, and adjudication officers.

Section 40: Amendment of Section 24 of the Act of 2003 (Grants to Authority) to increase the limit from €500,000,000 to €800,000,000 for certain capital funding allocations.

Section 41: Amendment of Schedule of the Act of 2003 (Functions performable by Contractor), to amend and update the relevant statutory provisions to reflect functions that may be performed by contractors.

Chapter 2, Amendments of Tourist Traffic Acts and Hotel Proprietors Act 1963

Section 42: Amendment of the Act of 1952, Section 27 (Return of application fee), is amended to update the provision for the return of a registration application fee to align with the provisions of the Tourist Traffic Acts 1939. Section 32 (Cancellation of registration), is amended to introduce an appeal provision relating to a decision by the Authority to cancel a registration.

Section 43: Amendment of Section 7 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1957 (Application for registration after refusal or cancellation of registration), to reflect the new right of appeal under section 27 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1939 where the Authority determines that premises are not eligible for registration.

Section 44: Amendment of Section 1 of the Hotel Proprietors Act 1963 (Definitions), to update the definition of a ‘hotel’ and ‘register of hotels’ and align them with the corresponding definitions in the Tourist Traffic Acts.

Section 45: Amendment of Section 4 and 8 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1983 (Display of certain information), amends section 4 of the 1983 Act to provide that, where a person is acting in contravention of sections 33, 34, 35, 37, 37B or 37E of the Tourist Traffic Act 1939, the Court may, on the application of the Authority, make an order prohibiting the continuation of that contravention.

This section amends section 8 of the 1983 Act to provide that a registered proprietor who fails to comply with a requirement to display information required by the Board commits an offence. A registered proprietor guilty of such an offence is liable on summary conviction to a Class A fine, and the enforcement provisions in section 47 of the Tourist Traffic Act 1939 apply as if the offence were an offence under Part III of that Act.

Chapter 3, Amendment of Schedule 5 to the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005

Section 46: Amendment of Schedule 5 to the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005, to include the National Tourism Development Authority as a specified bodies that is legally permitted to access and use an individual’s Personal Public Service Number for official purposes.

Chapter 4, Amendment to the Planning and Development Act 2024

Section 47: Amendment to the Planning and Development Act 2024, as amended, by the insertion of a new section, 83A, to suspend the requirement for planning permission in respect of a material change in use to short-term letting for a period of 2 years, beginning on the date of coming into operation of Section 47 of the Short-Term Letting and Tourism Act 2026, in population centres under 20,000 persons. Permission may continue to be sought during this period to ensure short-term letting operators are in compliance with planning rules at the cessation of the 2 year period.

*An Roinn Fiontar, Turasóireachta agus Fostaíochta,
Deireadh Fómhair, 2026.*

