



## **DÁIL ÉIREANN**

*Dé Céadaoin, 27 Meán Fómhair, 2017*  
*Wednesday, 27th September, 2017*

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**RIAR NA hOIBRE**  
**ORDER PAPER**



*Dé Céadaoin, 27 Meán Fómhair, 2017*  
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12 meán lae  
12 noon

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**ORD GNÓ**  
**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

22. Ráitis maidir le Forbairtí i ndáil le RA do tharraingt siar as AE (*atógáil*).  
Statements on Developments on the UK withdrawal from the EU (*resumed*).
4. An Bille um Sheirbhísí Uisce, 2017 — Ordú don Dara Céim.  
Water Services Bill 2017 — Order for Second Stage.

**GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA**  
**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

145. (l) Tairiscint *maidir le* Tithíocht Shóisialta agus Incheannaithe.  
(a) Motion *re* Social and Affordable Housing.

**FÓGRA I dTAOBH GNÓ NUA**  
**NOTICE OF NEW BUSINESS**

- 8a. An Bille um Athfheistiú Tithíochta Foilmhe, 2017 — An Chéad Chéim.  
Vacant Housing Refurbishment Bill 2017 — First Stage.

## I dTOSACH GNÓ PHOIBLÍ AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

*Billí a thionscnamh: Initiation of Bills*

*Tíolactha:*

*Presented:*

4. An Bille um Sheirbhísí Uisce, 2017 — Ordú don Dara Céim.  
Water Services Bill 2017 — Order for Second Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le dliteanais, i leith muirir arna bhforchur ag Uisce Éireann i ndáil le soláthar seirbhísí uisce do theaghais, a scor agus a mhúchadh; maidir le híocaíochtaí áirithe arna ndéanamh i leith muirir arna bhforchur amhlaidh a aisíoc; maidir le méid tairsí a shocrú; maidir le dliteanas íoc as soláthar seirbhísí uisce ag Uisce Éireann do theaghais a rachaidh thar an méid tairsí; maidir le liúntais agus díolúintí ón dliteanas sin in imthosca áirithe; maidir le maoiniú d'Uisce Éireann; maidir le comhlacht a bhunú ar a dtabharfar, sa Ghaeilge, an Fóram Uisce nó, sa Bhéarla, the Water Forum; maidir le comhlacht a bhunú ar a dtabharfar, sa Ghaeilge, an Comhlacht Comhairleach Uisce nó, sa Bhéarla, the Water Advisory Body; maidir le leasú a dhéanamh ar shocrúithe i ndáil leis an gCiste Rialtais Áitiúil; chun na gcríoch sin do leasú an Achta Rialtais Áitiúil, 1998, an Achta Luachála, 2001, an Achta um Sheirbhísí Uisce, 2007, an Achta um Sheirbhísí Uisce (Uimh. 2), 2013 agus an Achta um Sheirbhísí Uisce, 2014; agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe a bhaineann leis an méid sin.

Bill entitled an Act to provide for discontinuing and extinguishing liabilities in respect of charges imposed by Irish Water for the provision of water services to a dwelling; for refund of certain payments made in respect of charges so imposed; for setting a threshold amount; for liability to pay for provision by Irish Water of water services exceeding the threshold amount to a dwelling; for allowances and exemptions from that liability in certain circumstances; for funding for Irish Water; for establishment of a body to be known in the Irish language as An Fóram Uisce or in the English language as the Water Forum; for establishment of a body to be known in the Irish language as An Comhlacht Comhairleach Uisce or in the English language as the Water Advisory Body; for amending arrangements in relation to the Local Government Fund; for those purposes to amend the Local Government Act 1998, the Valuation Act 2001, the Water Services Act 2007, the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 and the Water Services Act 2014; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

—An tAire Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil.

*Tabhairt Isteach:*

*Introduction:*

- 8a. An Bille um Athfheistiú Tithíochta Foilmhe, 2017 — An Chéad Chéim.  
Vacant Housing Refurbishment Bill 2017 — First Stage.

Bille dá ngairtear Acht do bhunú próiseas speisialta ceadaithe pleanála agus rialaithe foirgníochta i ngach údarás pleanála lena gcumasófar forbairt bhrostithe aicmí áirithe forbairtí cónaithe, lena n-áirítear iad siúd dá dteastaíonn athrú úsáide ó úsáid tráchtála nó

Bill entitled an Act to establish a special planning and building control approval process in each planning authority, which will enable the expedited development of certain classes of residential developments including those requiring change of use from

tionscail go húsáid chónaithe agus athfheistiú cónaithe in urláir uachtaracha agus i ndéanmhais is sine, agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

commercial or industrial to residential and residential refurbishment in upper floors and in older structures, and to provide for related matters.

—Barry Cowen.

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## ORDUITHE AN LAE ORDERS OF THE DAY

- 22.** Ráitis maidir le Forbairtí i ndáil le RA do tharraingt siar as AE (*atógáil*).  
Statements on Developments on the UK withdrawal from the EU (*resumed*).
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## GNÓ COMHALTAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACHA PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

*Fógraí Tairisceana:*  
*Notices of Motions:*

**145.** “That Dáil Éireann:

notes that:

- the social and affordable housing crisis has now reached the level of an emergency;
- growing numbers of people do not have access to affordable, secure and safe homes;
- 8,000 people, including 3,000 children, are being forced to live in emergency accommodation;
- 90,000 households are on council waiting lists, many waiting for more than 10 years for an allocation;
- thousands of people are struggling with high rents, insecurity of tenure and poor standards in the private rental sector;
- thousands more are locked out of the private purchase market by high prices driven up by land speculation;
- the failure to resolve the mortgage distress crisis and keep people in their family home or private rented accommodation continues to push more people into homelessness;
- Rebuilding Ireland does not provide for an adequate level of investment in social or affordable housing;
- Rebuilding Ireland continues to over rely on the private sector to meet social and affordable housing need; and
- Rebuilding Ireland, unless substantially amended, will not address the underlying causes of the housing and homeless crisis; and

calls on the Government to:

- honour the proposal from the Report of the Committee on Housing and Homelessness to increase the stock of social houses owned by local authorities and approved housing;
- introduce a new affordable housing programme in 2018 to enable middle-income households to access private rental and private purchase housing at affordable prices;

- support these housing programmes with a capital investment commitment substantially greater than that outlined in Rebuilding Ireland;
- introduce new measures to stop the flow of people into homelessness by providing greater protections for private renters and greater supports for those in long-term mortgage distress; and
- give a clear commitment that no family with children will be left in emergency accommodation for more than six months and that no person will be forced to sleep rough due to lack of safe and appropriate emergency accommodation.” — *Eoin Ó Broin, Gerry Adams, John Brady, Pat Buckley, Seán Crowe, David Cullinane, Pearse Doherty, Dessie Ellis, Martin J. Ferris, Kathleen Funchion, Martin Kenny, Mary Lou McDonald, Denise Mitchell, Imelda Munster, Carol Nolan, Jonathan O'Brien, Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin, Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire, Louise O'Reilly, Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Maurice Quinlivan, Brian Stanley, Peadar Tóibín.*

[26 September, 2017]

*Leasutihe:*

*Amendments:*

1. To insert the following after “lack of safe and appropriate emergency accommodation”:

“— introduce immediate measures to transform the National Asset Management Agency into a National Housing Development and Finance Agency and repurpose its mandate into one of addressing the serious shortage in supply of housing for sale or for rent at affordable prices, so that the new agency can take a leading role on behalf of the State in the development of affordable housing, the delivery of new builds and the long-term financing of social housing through local authorities.” — *Jan O'Sullivan, Brendan Howlin, Joan Burton, Alan Kelly, Willie Penrose, Brendan Ryan, Sean Sherlock.*

2. To delete all words after “Dáil Éireann” and substitute the following:

“notes:

- that the social and affordable housing crisis has now reached the level of an emergency;
- that growing numbers of people do not have access to affordable, secure and safe homes;
- that 8,000 people, including 3,000 children, are being forced to live in emergency accommodation;
- that 90,000 households are on council waiting lists, many waiting for more than 10 years for an allocation;
- the dramatic increase in overcrowding in social and private housing due to the chronic shortage of homes;
- that significant numbers of people are not entitled to social housing or have been removed from the list because their income marginally exceeds eligibility thresholds but is not sufficient to access the private housing market;
- that thousands of people are struggling with high rents, insecurity of tenure and poor standards in the private rental sector;
- that thousands more are locked out of the private purchase market by high prices driven up by land speculation;

- that vulture funds have made enormous profits from acquiring vast quantities of land and houses from the National Asset Management Agency and financial institutions bailed out by the public;
- the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government's plans to sell public housing land to private developers to be developed for private-for-profit housing;
- that the failure to resolve the mortgage distress crisis and keep people in their family home or private rented accommodation continues to push more people into homelessness;
- that Rebuilding Ireland does not provide for an adequate level of investment in social or affordable housing;
- that Rebuilding Ireland continues to over rely on the private sector to meet social and affordable housing need;
- that Rebuilding Ireland, unless substantially amended, will not address the underlying causes of the housing and homeless crisis; and
- that the Central Statistics Office estimates there are 183,312 empty units across the State; and

calls on the Government to:

- honour the proposal from the Report of the Committee on Housing and Homelessness to dramatically increase the stock of social houses owned and managed by local authorities and approved housing bodies;
- end the reliance on private developers to provide housing to those on the list;
- end all plans for Public Private Partnerships to develop housing on public land;
- legislate to ensure the delivery of a minimum of 40 per cent affordable homes on lands that have been developed with the support of the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund;
- raise the thresholds for eligibility for the social housing list;
- introduce a new affordable housing programme in 2018 to enable middle-income households to access housing at affordable prices;
- ensure any State supported affordable housing programme provides safeguards for the homes to remain affordable into the future;
- support these housing programmes with a capital investment commitment substantially greater than that outlined in Rebuilding Ireland;
- introduce new measures to stop the flow of people into homelessness by outlawing economic evictions and closing all loopholes that are currently being exploited by landlords and vulture funds to significantly increase rents or evict tenants;
- give a clear commitment that no family with children will be left in emergency accommodation for more than six months and that no person will be forced to sleep rough due to lack of safe and appropriate emergency accommodation;
- introduce a compulsory purchase programme to acquire vacant houses and apartments;
- immediately cease the sale of all National Asset Management Agency land;
- introduce immediate measures to transform the National Asset Management Agency

into a National Housing Development and Finance Agency and repurpose its mandate into one of addressing the serious shortage of both social and affordable housing; and

- hold a referendum to enshrine the right to housing in the Constitution of Ireland.” — *Richard Boyd Barrett, Gino Kenny, Bríd Smith.*

3. To delete all words after “Dáil Éireann” and substitute the following:

“notes that:

- the State has built fewer than 3,500 social homes since 2011, less than the number constructed every year on average from 1994–2010;
- fewer than 600 new social homes will be constructed in 2017 when the Rebuilding Ireland target is 5,000;
- only 24 per cent of 10,000 units in the ‘construction pipeline’ are on site, so it will be 2021 before most are built compared to the already unambitious target of 26,000 units;
- the overall housing budget is too low and skewed toward current housing programmes, such as Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme;
- the capital house building budget (€730 million in 2017) is still 51 per cent below 2008 levels;
- as a result, no new housing stock is being added as social housing provision coming from the private rental and owner occupier market;
- due to years of undersupply and pent-up demand Ireland needs 40,000 to 50,000 new homes per year to make a dent on demand and a noticeable impact on affordability;
- the Government target is 25,000 by 2021 and 15,000–18,000 new units expected in 2017;
- clearly there is a market failure in housing and new interventions are required to stimulate supply;
- the Government’s reluctance to accept the actual challenges and their refusal to make any interventions in the housing market is making a crisis situation worse;
- there has been no commitment by this Government to making housing more affordable, with the confirmation that there is no intention to re-introduce affordable housing initiatives for low- and middle-income households;
- it is in the area of homelessness that the Government’s inept housing policy really comes into plain view, and the abandonment of targets on hotel accommodation and continuing failure to make a dent in rising homeless figures cannot continuously be ignored;

calls on the Government to:

- commit to meeting Rebuilding Ireland’s targets on moving homeless families out of hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation by the end of 2017;
- revise the emergency homeless strategy, in particular redesigning Homeless HAP and the HAP Scheme so households are not discouraged from taking up a tenancy and are not removed from main social housing waiting lists;
- increase and re-balance the housing budget toward capital expenditure;
- put in place new vehicles to enable off-balance sheet funding for social housing projects from private sources and credit unions;



- devise a strategy to enable and encourage far greater scale and size in social house building projects;
- recognise the significant market failures in housing, including in planning, finance, infrastructure and costs of construction, which the market requires State intervention to overcome;
- acknowledge that the Government's target of 25,000 new house completions by 2021 is not adequate, given years of pent-up demand and under-supply, and that at a minimum we need 45,000–50,000 units output annually over the next few years;
- commit to reintroducing affordable housing schemes including affordable owner-occupier and rental housing schemes for middle income households and explore possible financial incentives aimed at encouraging development of housing at more affordable price points;
- introduce financial incentives to build high-density developments where they are currently not commercially viable to build in Dublin City and other local authorities;
- commit to greater enforcement and implementation of Rent Pressure Zones and other rent regulations including more staffing and resources for the Residential Tenancies Board;
- tackle land hoarding by large investors, which is clearly holding back supply including by making changes to Capital Gains Tax and introducing a New Site Tax to encourage the use of empty sites; and
- devise new strategies to manage vacant properties including an active occupancy register.” — *Barry Cowen, Pat Casey, Bobby Aylward, John Brassil, Declan Breathnach, James Browne, Mary Butler, Thomas Byrne, Jackie Cahill, Dara Calleary, Shane Cassells, Jack Chambers, Lisa M. Chambers, Niall Collins, John Curran, Stephen S. Donnelly, Timmy Dooley, Sean Fleming, Pat the Cope Gallagher, Seán Haughey, Billy Kelleher, John Lahart, James Lawless, Marc MacSharry, Micheál Martin, Charlie McConologue, Michael McGrath, John McGuinness, Aindrias Moynihan, Michael Moynihan, Eugene Murphy, Margaret Murphy O'Mahony, Darragh O'Brien, Jim O'Callaghan, Éamon Ó Cuív, Willie O'Dea, Kevin O'Keeffe, Fiona O'Loughlin, Frank O'Rourke, Anne Rabbitte, Eamon Scanlon, Brendan Smith, Niamh Smyth, Robert Troy.*

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## MEMORANDA

*Dé Céadaoin, 27 Meán Fómhair, 2017*  
*Wednesday, 27th September, 2017*

Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Shláinte i Seomra Coiste 3, TL2000, ar 9 a.m.  
 Meeting of the Joint Committee on Health in Committee Room 3, LH2000, at 9 a.m.

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Dhlí agus Ceart agus Comhionannas i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 9 a.m.  
 Meeting of the Joint Committee on Justice and Equality in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 9 a.m.

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Chumarsáid, Gníomhú ar son na hAeráide agus Comhshaol i Seomra na Dála, ar 9.30 a.m.

P.T.O.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment in Dáil Chamber, at 9.30 a.m.

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Iompar, Turasóireacht agus Spórt i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 9.30 a.m. (*priobháideach*).

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Transport, Tourism and Sport in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 9.30 a.m. (*private*).

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Leanaí agus Gnóthaí Óige i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 10 a.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Children and Youth Affairs in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 10 a.m.

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um Achainíocha ón bPobal i Seomra Coiste 1, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on Public Petitions in Committee Room 1, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

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Cruinniú den Chomhchoiste um an Ochtú Leasú ar an mBunreacht i Seomra Coiste 3, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Joint Committee on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution in Committee Room 3, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

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#### **An Bille um Méadreolaíocht Dlí (Uirlisí Tomhais), 2017:**

#### **Legal Metrology (Measuring Instruments) Bill 2017:**

Cruinniú den Roghchoiste um Ghnó, Fiontair agus Nuálaíocht i Seomra Coiste 4, TL2000, ar 1.30 p.m.

Meeting of the Select Committee on Business, Enterprise and Innovation in Committee Room 4, LH2000, at 1.30 p.m.

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Cruinniú den Roghchoiste um Fhormhaoirsiú Buiséid i Seomra Coiste 2, TL2000, ar 2 p.m.

Meeting of the Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight in Committee Room 2, LH2000, at 2 p.m.

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### **SCRÍBHINNÍ A LEAGADH FAOI BHRÁID NA dTITHE DOCUMENTS LAID BEFORE THE HOUSES<sup>1</sup>**

#### ***Reachtúil***

#### ***Statutory***

#### ***In-neamhnithe le Tairiscint***

#### ***Open to Motion to Annul***

Scéim Aoisliúntais an Údaráis um Bóithre Náisiúnta, 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 412 de 2017).

National Roads Authority Superannuation Scheme 2017 (S.I. No. 412 of 2017).

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<sup>1</sup> I gcás nach leagtar scríbhinn ach faoi bhráid aon Teach amháin, cuirfear (D) – Dáil nó (S) – Seanad ina diaidh dá réir sin.

Where a document is laid before one House only it will be appended with (D) – Dáil or (S) – Seanad accordingly.

*Eile*

Togra le haghaidh Rialachán ó Pharlaimint na hEorpa agus ón gComhairle maidir le hearraí cultúrtha a allmhairiú mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin.

COM (2017) 375.

Togra le haghaidh Cinneadh ón gComhairle maidir leis an seasamh a bheidh le glacadh, thar ceann an Aontais Eorpaigh, i ndáil le tograí ó pháirtithe éagsúla sa Choinbhinsiún um speicis imirceacha ainmhithe fiáine a chaomhnú le haghaidh leasuithe ar na Foscábhinní a ghabhann leis an gCoinbhinsiún ag an dara cruinniú déag de Chomhdháil na bPáirtithe mar aon le nóta faisnéise míniúcháin.

COM (2017) 455.

Foras na Mara. An Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2016.

An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Iompair. An Tuarascáil Bhliantúil, 2016.

An tÚdarás Náisiúnta Iompair. Na Ráitis Airgeadais, 2016.

***Neamhreachtúil***

Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Cosaint Fhoghabhálach), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 409 de 2017).

Tithe an Oireachtais. An Comhchoiste um Ghnóthaí an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tuarascáil maidir le freastal ar Chuairt na Toscaireachta COSAC ar Pozzallo, an tSicil, an Iodáil, 5 - 6 Bealtaine 2017.

Tithe an Oireachtais. An Comhchoiste um Ghnóthaí an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tuarascáil ón Toscaireacht maidir le freastal ar Chruinniú de Chathaoirligh COSAC i dTaillinn, an Eastóin, 9 - 10 Iúil 2017.

*Other*

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the import of cultural goods together with explanatory information note.

COM (2017) 375.

Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, with regard to proposals from various parties to the Convention on the conservation of migratory species of wild animals for amendments to the Appendices of the Convention at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties together with explanatory information note.

COM (2017) 455.

Marine Institute. Annual Report, 2016.

National Transport Authority. Annual Report, 2016.

National Transport Authority. Financial Statements, 2016.

***Non-Statutory***

European Union (Subsidiary Protection) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 409 of 2017).

Houses of the Oireachtas. Joint Committee on European Union Affairs. Report on attendance at COSAC Delegation Visit to Pozzallo, Sicily, Italy, 5 - 6 May, 2017.

Houses of the Oireachtas. Joint Committee on European Union Affairs. Report of the Delegation on attendance at Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC in Tallinn, Estonia, 9 - 10 July, 2017.

Tithe an Oireachtais. An Comhchoiste um Ghnóthaí an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tuarascáil maidir le freastal ar Chomhdháil Ardleibhéil Pharlaimint na hEorpa maidir le Bainistiú Imirce sa Bhruiséil, an Bheilg an 21 Meitheamh 2017.

Houses of the Oireachtas. Joint Committee on European Union Affairs. Report on attendance at the European Parliament High Level Conference on Migration Management in Brussels, Belgium on 21 June, 2017.

Tithe an Oireachtais. An Comhchoiste um Ghnóthaí an Aontais Eorpaigh. Tuarascáil ón Toscaireacht maidir le freastal ar Chruinniú Iomlánach COSAC LVII i Málta, 28 - 30 Bealtaine 2017.

Houses of the Oireachtas. Joint Committee on European Union Affairs. Report of the Delegation on attendance at COSAC LVII Plenary Meeting in Malta, 28 - 30 May, 2017.

Rialacha na nUaschúirteanna (Ordú 121B (Leasú)), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 403 de 2017).

Rules of the Superior Courts (Order 121B (Amendment)) 2017 (S.I. No. 403 of 2017).

Rialacha na nUaschúirteanna (Orduithe 5 agus 84 (Leasú)), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 404 de 2017).

Rules of the Superior Courts (Orders 5 and 84 (Amendment)) 2017 (S.I. No. 404 of 2017).

Na Rialacha Cúirte Dúiche (Ordú Eorpach um Chaomhnú Cuntas), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 405 de 2017).

District Court (European Account Preservation Order) Rules 2017 (S.I. No. 405 of 2017).