Policy Forum for Ireland conference:
Next steps for infrastructure delivery in Ireland
Timing: Morning, Friday, 29th January 2027
*****Taking Place Online*****

Draft agenda subject to change

8.30 Registration

9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas

9.05 **Ireland's infrastructure needs - scale of demand, delivery capacity and fiscal sustainability**
Niall Conroy, Senior Economist, Irish Fiscal Advisory Council
Questions and comments from the floor

9.30 **Major infrastructure investment and implementation - priorities and practicalities across energy, water and transport**
priorities under the updated National Development Plan and Project Ireland 2040 | *long-term funding commitments and the NDP Construction Pipeline* | *procurement, contract models and risk allocation* | *commercial viability and contractor participation* | *construction workforce, skills and supply chain capacity* | *grid, water and transport investment priorities* | *coordination and accountability across government, agencies and utilities* | *private finance, value for money and fiscal sustainability* | *climate resilience and long-term adaptability* | *all-island and EU collaboration*
Dawn Slevin, Managing Director, Environmental Liability Solutions Europe
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, transport
Senior representative, renewables
Senior representative, consultancy
Questions and comments from the floor

10.20 **Progress and next steps in delivering the *National Development Plan***
Sean Fleming TD, Chair, Committee on Infrastructure and National Development Plan Delivery, Houses of the Oireachtas
Questions and comments from the floor

10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas

10.50 Break

11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas

11.05 **Priorities for infrastructure planning and consenting decisions**
Senior representative, planning

11.15 **Planning and consenting reform for major projects - implementation, capacity and confidence in decision-making**
implementation and remaining commencement of the Planning and Development Act 2024 | *role, resourcing and capacity of An Coimisiún Pleanála and local planning authorities* | *designation under the Critical Infrastructure Act 2026, and requirements for public bodies and implications for other projects* | *consenting processes and developer certainty* | *judicial review reform including procedures, costs, access to justice and options for further proposals* | *environmental assessment and climate obligations for designated projects* | *early engagement and public participation* | *compulsory purchase and land acquisition*
Senior representative, local authority
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, infrastructure

11.30 Questions and comments from the floor

11.50 **Aligning infrastructure delivery with housing and regional growth objectives**
Senior representative, housing

12.00 **Housing, regional growth and enabling infrastructure - priorities for utility connections, site activation and coordination**
implementation of Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025-2030 | *Housing Infrastructure Investment Fund deployment and project delivery* | *water, wastewater and electricity connections, connection costs and timescales* | *role of the Housing Activation Office, Land Development Agency and Housing Finance Agency* | *coordination between developers, utilities and local authorities* | *site readiness and development viability* | *revised National Planning Framework and regional growth* | *infrastructure for enterprise and investment* | *competing demands on network capacity*
Senior representative, legal
Senior representative, developer
Senior representative, utilities
Senior representative, grid

12.20 Questions and comments from the floor

12.45 **Long-term infrastructure strategy - resilience, adaptability and the next phase of *Project Ireland 2040***
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor

13.10 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Ireland closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Oireachtas
Sean Cudmore, Policy Forum for Ireland