



## NEW GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION PROGRAMME: INDUSTRY & SECTOR SPECIFIC BREAKDOWN

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

The third Government Legislation Programme of the Partnership Government has been published. The Cabinet has approved 31 new Bills for priority publication by July 2017. There are 33 Bills undergoing Pre-Legislative Stage. 27 Bills are currently before the Oireachtas and 69 other proposed Bills are being considered for introduction in the long-term. A relevant selection of these Bills and proposals is set out below, by industry or sector. Keep an eye on our website for further updates.

28 Bills have been published since this Government took office in May 2016 and 18 Bills have been enacted.

Click on the relevant link below to view the key proposals by industry or sector.

- **ASSET MANAGEMENT & INVESTMENT FUNDS**
- **AVIATION & TRANSPORT**
- **BANKING & FINANCE**
- **BETTING, GAMING & SPORTS**
- **CONSUMER**
- **CORPORATE**

- **EMPLOYMENT, EQUALITY & EDUCATION**
- **ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES**
- **ENVIRONMENTAL & PLANNING**
- **FOOD, BEVERAGE & AGRIBUSINESS**
- **HEALTHCARE & LIFE SCIENCES**
- **INSURANCE & REINSURANCE**
- **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECHNOLOGY**

- **LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION**
- **PENSIONS**
- **PUBLIC SECTOR**
- **REAL ESTATE**
- **TAX**
- **TELECOMS & MEDIA**
- **TOBACCO INDUSTRY**

**ASSET MANAGEMENT & INVESTMENT FUNDS**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Investment Limited Partnership (Amendment) Bill	To amend certain existing collective investment scheme legislation, the Investment Limited Partnership Act 1994 and the Limited Partnership Act 1907.	Heads of bill under preparation, pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Criminal Justice (Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the 4 <sup>th</sup> EU Money Laundering Directive, which, amongst other things requires the disclosure of beneficial ownership of shares in Irish companies. This must be transposed into Irish law by June 2017.	Pre-legislative scrutiny as soon as possible
Companies (Statutory Audits) Bill	To transpose certain provisions in the EU Audit Directive 2014/56/EU and the EU Regulation (537/2014) which are not capable of being transposed by way of the European Union (Statutory Audits) Regulations 2016.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted

Your William Fry contacts: [Dan Morrissey](#), [Tara O'Reilly](#) & [Patricia Taylor](#)

**AVIATION & TRANSPORT**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Irish Aviation Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1997 to extend the existing powers of the IAA, with regard to its safety regulation function and to recoup costs through fees and charges for its aviation security regulation functions. It will also provide for the recognition of the role of the IAA in compliance monitoring with regard to ICAO Annex 17 (prevention and suppression of all acts of unlawful interference against civil aviation on a worldwide basis).	Work is underway
Passenger Name Record Bill	To give effect to the Passenger Name Record (PNR) Directive which must be transposed into law by May 2018. The Directive is a counter terrorist measure which obliges air carriers to provide member states' authorities with PNR data for flights entering or departing from the EU.	Preparatory work is underway
Large Public Service Vehicle (LPSV) Bill	To provide for a new regulatory regime for large public service vehicles and to revoke the existing legislative provisions governing such vehicles.	Work is underway
Road Traffic (PRUM Decisions) Bill	To give effect to the PRUM Decisions in respect of the exchange of vehicle ownership details.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Dublin Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend section 52 of the Act to reflect commitments entered into under the May 2015 Labour Relations Commission 'terms of settlement'.	Work is underway
Road Safety Authority (Amendment) Bill	To update and strengthen existing provisions and provide the power for publishing details of disqualified drivers.	Preparatory work is underway

Road Traffic (Compulsory Motor Insurance) Bill	To give effect to the recommendations arising out of the Motor Insurance Group and other matters arising at EU level.	Preparatory work is underway
Road Traffic (Fixed Penalty Notice – Drink Driving) Bill	To amend section 29 of the Road Traffic Act 2010 to allow that all those caught drink driving under the administrative system will receive a mandatory disqualification from driving.	Work is underway
Road Traffic (Master Licence Record) Bill	To provide legal power for the Master Licence Record (MLR) project.	Preparatory work is underway

**Your William Fry contacts:** [David Maughan](#), [Liam McCabe](#) & [David Cullen](#)

**BANKING & FINANCE**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Central Bank Consolidation Bill	To consolidate all of the collectively cited Central Bank Acts.	Work is underway
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman Bill	To amalgamate the Financial Services Ombudsman and the Pensions Ombudsman and to amend, update and restate the existing legislation to form one office dealing with pensions and financial services complaints.	Pre-legislative scrutiny took place on 27 October 2016
Investment Limited Partnership (Amendment) Bill	To amend certain existing collective investment scheme legislation, the Investment Limited Partnership Act 1994 and the Limited Partnership Act 1907.	Heads of bill under preparation. Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank Bill	To allow for Ireland's potential membership of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).	Heads approved December 2015. Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Criminal Justice (Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the 4 <sup>th</sup> EU Money Laundering Directive, which, amongst other things requires the disclosure of beneficial ownership of shares in Irish companies. This must be transposed into Irish law by June 2017.	Pre-legislative scrutiny as soon as possible
Mortgages Special Court Bill / Courts (Mortgage Arrears) Bill	To establish a dedicated new court to sensitively and expeditiously handle mortgage arrears and other personal insolvency cases, by imposing solutions on the parties including those recommended by the new Mortgage Arrears Resolution Service. The hearings of this court could be held in private if requested by the debtor.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To implement the Report of the Review of the Framework for Motor Insurance Compensation in Ireland.	Work is underway



Your William Fry contacts: [Elaine Hanly](#), [Orla Brennan](#), [Shane Kelleher](#) & [Rachel Stanton](#)

**BETTING, GAMING & SPORTS**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Gambling Control Bill	To provide a comprehensive new licensing and regulatory framework for gambling. The executive regulatory functions are to be performed by a body within the Department of Justice and Equality.	Pre-legislative scrutiny took place, work is underway
Greyhound Industry Bill	To update the 1958 Greyhound Industry Act and ensure that the principles of good governance and regulation are clearly laid down in primary legislation.	Pre-legislative scrutiny expected January 2017

Your William Fry contacts: [Ken Casey](#) & [Kenneth Morgan](#)

**CONSUMER**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015	To provide for minimum unit pricing for retailing of alcohol products; to regulate the advertising and sponsorship of alcohol; to provide for a structural separation of alcohol from other products in mixed trading outlets; to provide for health labelling of alcohol products; and to regulate the sale and supply of alcohol in certain circumstances.	Committee Stage (Seanad)
Sale of Alcohol Bill	To codify the law relating to the sale and consumption of alcohol.	Heads of bill approved April 2012, work is underway
Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments (NAWI) Bill	To transpose Article 3(3) of Directive 2014/31 of the European Parliament and Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to the making available on the market of Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments (NAWI).	Heads are currently being drafted
Communications Regulation (Postal Services) (Amendment) Bill 2016	To repeal section 30 of the Communications Regulation (Postal Services) Act 2011 which sets out the mechanism for regulating postal pricing within universal service using a price cap mechanism. The Bill also provides that the Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) will undertake a review of the consequences of the repeal of section 30 of the Communications Regulation (Postal Services) Act 2011.	Order for Second Stage (Dáil)

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Claire Waterson](#), [Sheila Tormey](#) & [Kenneth Morgan](#)



**CORPORATE**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Criminal Justice (Corruption) Bill	To replace outdated legislation, meet international commitments to the Council of Europe, the OECD and the UN, and to give effect to certain Mahon Tribunal recommendations.	Pre-legislative scrutiny completed in 2013, drafting continuing
Companies (Accounting) Bill 2016	To transpose the EU Accounting Directive (2013/34/EU) which provides simplifications and reductions of administrative burdens for SMEs with regard to the preparation of financial statements.	Order for Report (Dáil)
Companies (Statutory Audits) Bill	To transpose certain provisions in the EU Audit Directive 2014/56/EU and the EU Regulation (537/2014) which are not capable of being transposed by way of the European Union (Statutory Audits) Regulations 2016.	Heads are currently being drafted
Criminal Justice (Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the 4 <sup>th</sup> EU Money Laundering Directive, which, amongst other things requires the disclosure of beneficial ownership of shares in Irish companies. This must be transposed into Irish law by June 2017.	Pre-legislative scrutiny as soon as possible

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Shane O'Donnell](#), [Barry Conway](#), [Barbara Kenny](#) & [Cormac Little](#)

**EMPLOYMENT, EQUALITY & EDUCATION**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Family Leave Bill	To consolidate with amendments all family leave legislation.	Work is underway
Universities (Amendment) Bill	To ensure compliance with government guidelines on remuneration, allowances, pensions and staffing numbers in the university sector.	Heads of bill approved in October 2012; drafting underway
Higher Education (Reform) Bill	To modernise the legislative framework underpinning the governance and functions of the Higher Education Authority and the governance structures of the universities.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted
Technological Universities Bill 2015	To provide for the dissolution of certain institutes of technology and for the transfer of their functions, assets, liabilities and staff to new institutes of technology to be established; to provide for the establishment of technological universities; and to provide for the functions and governance of these universities.	Awaiting Committee Stage (Dáil)
Health & Wellbeing (Calorie Posting and Workplace Wellbeing) Bill	To require food premises to display calories on menus and to require all public sector employers to have and to report on a Health and Wellbeing policy.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted
Disability/Equality (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To allow ratification of the UN Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities and to make further technical amendments to disability and equality legislation.	Order for Second Stage (Dáil)
Education (Admission to Schools) Bill 2016	To contain provisions regarding the enrolment of pupils in schools and the requirement for schools to operate enrolment policies in a transparent fashion.	Awaiting Committee Stage (Dáil)

Garda Síochána (Compensation for Malicious Injuries) Bill	To provide a revised scheme for compensating Gardaí maliciously injured in their work.	Legal advice is being analysed
Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012 to address some issues that have arisen regarding the scope of responsibilities in relation to the recognition of awards and regulation of private and voluntary providers, to ensure adequate protection of enrolled learners where providers discontinue a programme, and to give greater authority to institutes of technology to award Level 9 qualifications.	Heads of bill currently being drafted
Education (Parent and Student Charter) Bill	To amend the Education Act 1998 and to set out the principles that will guide how schools engage with parents and students, to require each school to have a Parent and Student Charter, that the Parent and Student Charter will be based on principles set out in the Act.	Heads of bill approved October 2016, submitted to Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny
Protections for Employees on Insecure, Low Hour Contracts	To implement the policy response to the University of Limerick Study on Zero Hour Contracts and Low Hour Contracts.	Work is underway
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill	To provide for registration of physiotherapists/physical therapists and some other technical amendments.	Heads of bill approved December 2016
Industrial Relations Act 1990 (Amendment) Bill	To provide Garda Representative Associations with access to the State Industrial Relations Institutions.	Work is underway
Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (OWTA) to remove the blanket exclusion of An Garda Síochána and members of the Defence Forces from scope of the OWTA and bring them within scope, subject to the application of the derogations permitted by the Working Time Directive.	Work is underway

Dublin Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend section 52 of the Act to reflect commitments entered into under the May 2015 Labour Relations Commission 'terms of settlement'.	Work is underway
Competition (Amendment) Bill 2016	Bill to delimit the application of the Competition Act 2002 to Trade Unions and Trade Union Members and to certain agreements negotiated with public bodies, and to provide for related matters.	Second Stage (Dáil)

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Boyce Shubotham](#), [Alicia Compton](#), [Catherine O'Flynn](#) & [Maura Roe](#)

**ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Minerals Development Bill 2015	To modernise and consolidate all mineral development legislation.	Second Stage (Dáil)
Geothermal Energy Development Bill	To provide a legislative framework for the vesting, licensing and regulation of the development of geothermal energy.	Drafting is ongoing
Radiological Protection (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the transfer of certain functions in the Radiological Protection Act 1991 from the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.	Heads of bill expected March 2017
Water Environment Bill	To give full effect to the Water Framework Directive, including addressing outstanding infringements.	Preliminary work underway

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Fergus Devine](#), [Eavan Saunders](#) & [Claire Waterson](#)

**ENVIRONMENT & PLANNING**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Maritime Area and Foreshore (Amendment) Bill	To streamline the development consent process for the foreshore including the integration of certain parts of the foreshore consent process (under the Foreshore Act 1933) with the existing on-land planning system.	Pre-legislative scrutiny took place in late 2013 and Committee reported in February 2014.
Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016	To amend and extend the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2015 and to establish the Office of the Planning Regulator to evaluate and carry out assessments relating to planning matters, amongst other functions. In addition, to provide for planning and development requirements to be taken into account by Irish Water.	Second Stage (Dáil)
Green Climate Fund Bill	To give effect to Ireland's membership of the UNFCCC Green Climate Fund.	Preparatory work is underway
Industrial Development (Amendment) Bill	To take account of the Supreme Court judgment in <i>Reid vs IDA and the Attorney General</i> to ensure that the IDA has the necessary statutory powers to undertake their property functions (in particular, compulsory purchase orders).	Heads of bill approved July 2016; referred to pre-legislative scrutiny. Drafting is continuing
Building Control Bill	To place Construction Industry Register Ireland (CIRI) on a statutory footing and thereby provide in law for the registration of buildings, contractors and specialist sub-contractors.	Heads of bill are in preparation
Housing (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies) Bill	To provide a regulatory framework for the operation of Approved Housing Bodies, through the establishment of an independent Regulator for AHBs.	Heads of bill approved 29 September 2015; pre-legislative scrutiny completed February 2016

Radiological Protection (Amendment) Bill	To give effect to the transfer of certain functions in the Radiological Protection Act 1991 from the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment.	Heads of bill expected March 2017
Aarhus Bill	To update certain provisions further to Ireland's transposition of the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in relation to environmental matters.	Work is ongoing

Your William Fry contacts: [Liam McCabe](#), [Conor Linehan](#) & [Jarleth Heneghan](#)

**FOOD, BEVERAGE & AGRIBUSINESS**

Proposed Bill	Purpose	Status
Sale of Alcohol Bill	To codify the law relating to the sale and consumption of alcohol.	Heads of bill approved April 2012, work is underway
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015	To provide for minimum unit pricing for retailing of alcohol products; to regulate the advertising and sponsorship of alcohol; to provide for a structural separation of alcohol from other products in mixed trading outlets; to provide for health labelling of alcohol products; and to regulate the sale and supply of alcohol in certain circumstances.	Committee Stage (Seanad)
Health & Wellbeing (Calorie Posting and Workplace Wellbeing) Bill	To require food premises to display calories on menus and to require all public sector employers to have and to report on a Health and Wellbeing policy.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Shane O'Donnell](#), [Sheila Tormey](#), [Clíodhna McDonough](#) & [Kenneth Morgan](#)



**HEALTHCARE & LIFE SCIENCES**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2014	To amend the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 to provide for a requirement for registered medical practitioners to have medical indemnity insurance except in certain circumstances and to give effect to Directive 2011/24/EU on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare.	Awaiting Committee Stage (Dáil)
Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2016	To amend the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, the Dental Act 1985, the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005, the Pharmacy Act 2007, the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011 and the Health Acts 1953 and 2004 to provide for 1) amendments required by the transposition of Directive 2013/55/EU, 2) an appeal against the minor sanctions, 3) action to be taken if a person was prohibited or restricted from practising in another country and 4) amendments in relation to a number of other issues including amendments to the registration of medical practitioners and physiotherapists/physical therapists	Second Stage (Seanad)
Health Act 2007 (Amendment) Bill	To provide for the extension of the Health Information and Quality Authority's functions to encompass regulation in the area of medical ionising radiation protection.	Work is underway
Health (Transport Support) Bill	To provide for a scheme to make individual payments as a contribution towards transport costs to people with severe disabilities on a low income who cannot access public transport.	Work is underway
Patient Safety (Licensing of Healthcare Facilities) Bill	To provide for a mandatory system of licensing for public and private healthcare facilities.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted

Health Information and Patient Safety Bill	To provide a legislative framework for the better governance of health information, initiatives including data matching and health information resources for use in the health service and support for clinical audit and patient safety notifications. It will also provide for the extension of Health Information and Quality Authority's remit to private health service providers.	Heads of bill approved November 2015, pre-legislative scrutiny completed December 2016
New Children's Hospital Establishment Bill	To establish a statutory body to provide paediatric acute services in Dublin at the new children's hospital, taking over those services currently provided by Our Lady's Hospital Crumlin, Temple Street and the paediatric service at Tallaght Hospital. It will also make amendments relating to the functions of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board (Establishment) Order.	Heads of bill expected early 2017
Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015	To provide for minimum unit pricing for retailing of alcohol products; to regulate the advertising and sponsorship of alcohol; to provide for a structural separation of alcohol from other products in mixed trading outlets; to provide for health labelling of alcohol products; and to regulate the sale and supply of alcohol in certain circumstances.	Committee Stage (Seanad)
Public Health (Sale of Tobacco Products and Non-Medicinal Nicotine Delivery Systems) Bill	To provide for the 1) retail licensing of tobacco products and Non-Medical Nicotine Delivery Systems, 2) prohibition of the sale of tobacco products from self service vending services, 3) prohibition of the sale of tobacco products by persons under 18 years of age, and 4) prohibition of the sale of non-medicinal nicotine delivery systems by, and to persons under 18 years of age.	Work is underway
Assisted Human Reproduction Bill	To provide a legislative framework for the regulation of assisted human reproduction practices and stem cell research.	Heads of bill currently being developed

Health & Wellbeing (Calorie Posting and Workplace Wellbeing) Bill	To require food premises to display calories on menus and to require all public sector employers to have and to report on a Health and Wellbeing policy.	Heads of bill are currently being drafted
Human Tissue Bill	To meet the key recommendation of the Madden Report that no hospital post-mortem may be carried out and no tissue retained after post-mortem without consent. It will also address other matters relating to human tissue including consent arrangements for organ transplantation and anatomical examination purposes.	Work on scoping the legislation is being progressed
Health and Social Care Professionals (Amendment) Bill	To provide for registration of physiotherapists/physical therapists and some other technical amendments.	Heads of bill approved December 2016

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Laura Scott](#), [Fiona Barry](#) & [Sinead Keavey](#)

**INSURANCE & REINSURANCE**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Investment Limited Partnership (Amendment) Bill	To amend certain existing collective investment scheme legislation, the Investment Limited Partnership Act 1994 and the Limited Partnership Act 1907.	Heads of bill under preparation, pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To implement the Report of the Review of the Framework for Motor Insurance Compensation in Ireland.	Work is underway
Road Traffic (Compulsory Motor Insurance) Bill	To give effect to the recommendations arising out of the Motor Insurance Group and other matters arising at EU level.	Preparatory work is underway

Your William Fry contacts: [John Larkin](#) & [Eoin Caulfield](#)

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECHNOLOGY**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Data-Sharing and Governance Bill	To mandate greater data-sharing and data-linking in the public service, to provide a legal mechanism to facilitate lawful data-sharing and data-linking for all public bodies, and to define standards for data governance and security to be followed in any data sharing or data-linking activities.	Pre-legislative scrutiny expected by end 2016
Criminal Justice (Offences Relating to Information Systems) Bill 2016	To give effect to provisions of EU Directive 2013/40 on attacks against information systems. The Bill amends the Criminal Damage Act 1991, the Bail Act 1997 and the Criminal Justice Act 2011.	Order for Second Stage (Dáil)
Amendment of the Constitution (Unified Patent Court) Bill	To amend Article 29 of the Constitution to recognise the International Agreement on a Unified Patent Court.	Heads of bill approved on 23 July 2014
Digital Hub Development Agency (Dissolution) Bill	To dissolve the Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA), repeal the DHDA Act 2003, and to give effect to the merger between the DHDA and Dublin City Council.	Work is underway
Copyright and Related Rights (Amendment) (Miscellaneous Intellectual Property) Bill	To introduce a series of amendments to the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 aimed at modernising copyright and also to take account of certain exceptions to copyright permitted by Directive 2001/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2011 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society.	Heads of bill approved in July 2016
Hallmarking (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Hallmarking Act 1981 to allow for hallmarking of palladium and mixed metals, and to allow offsite/off-shore marking of precious metals by the Irish Assay Office.	Order for Second Stage (Dáil)

Knowledge Development Box (Certification of Inventions) Bill	To provide for a certification scheme in respect of intellectual property for small companies to enable those companies obtain a tax benefit under the Knowledge Development Box and to amend the Patents Act 1992 to re-introduce substantive examination for patent applications.	Committee Stage (Seanad)
Cybercrime Bill	To give effect to those provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime 2001 not already provided for in national law in order to enable ratification of the Convention.	Preparatory work underway
Data Protection Bill	To transpose the EU Directive 2016/680 on Data Protection and give full effect to the Regulation 2016/679.	Heads of bill being finalised, pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Passenger Name Record Bill	To give effect to the Passenger Name Record (PNR) Directive which must be transposed into law by May 2018. The Directive is a counter terrorist measure which obliges air carriers to provide member states' authorities with PNR data for flights entering or departing from the EU.	Preparatory work is underway
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is underway
Cyber Security Bill	To transpose the Network and Information Security Directive EU 2016/1148 of 6 July 2016.	Work is underway

**Your William Fry contacts:** [David Cullen](#), [John O'Connor](#), [Carol Plunkett](#), [Laura Scott](#) & [Leo Moore](#)

**LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Mediation Bill	To promote mediation as a viable, effective and efficient alternative to court proceedings.	Pre-legislative scrutiny took place in 2012
Judicial Council Bill	To promote excellence in the exercise by judges of their judicial functions and to provide effective remedies for complaints about judicial misconduct including lay participation in the investigation of complaints.	Not indicated
Civil Liability (Amendment) Bill	To give financial security to those who have been catastrophically injured and who require lifelong care and attention by empowering the courts to make periodic payment orders.	Order for Second Stage (Seanad)
Personal Injuries Assessment Board (Amendment) Bill	To introduce a number of amendments to improve the operation and implementation of the Personal Injuries Assessment Board Act 2003.	Heads of bill expected are being prepared
Family Court Bill	To establish a Family Court as a separate division within the existing court structures.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Judicial Appointments Bill	To replace the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board with a new Judicial Appointments Commission.	Heads of bill expected January 2017
Juries Bill	To give effect to Law Reform Commission report on Juries.	Proposals under consideration
Amendment of the Constitution (Unified Patent Court) Bill	To amend Article 29 of the Constitution to recognise the International Agreement on a Unified Patent Court.	Heads of bill approved on 23 July 2014

Amendment of the Constitution (Removal of Blasphemy) Bill	To provide for a referendum on removing the crime of blasphemy from the Constitution.	Preliminary work has commenced
Courts and Civil Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To enact provisions relating to electronic courts services and a wide range of other measures such as amendment of the Bankruptcy and Personal Insolvency Acts.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Mortgages Special Court Bill / Courts (Mortgage Arrears) Bill	To establish a dedicated new court to sensitively and expeditiously handle mortgage arrears and other personal insolvency cases, by imposing solutions on the parties including those recommended by the new Mortgage Arrears Resolution Service. The hearings of this court could be held in private if requested by the debtor.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Owen O’Sullivan](#), [Carol Plunkett](#) & [Richard Breen](#)



**PENSIONS**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman Bill	To amalgamate the Financial Services Ombudsman and the Pensions Ombudsman and to amend, update and restate the existing legislation to form one office dealing with pensions and financial services complaints.	Pre-legislative scrutiny took place on 27 October 2016
Social Welfare and Pensions Bill	To provide a legal basis within the social welfare code for policy, administrative and operational changes and to provide for amendments to the Pensions Act.	Heads of bill expected February 2017, pre-legislative scrutiny March 2017

Your William Fry contacts: [Michael Wolfe](#) & [Liam Connellan](#)

**PUBLIC SECTOR**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Public Sector Standards Bill 2015	To reform the existing legislative framework in relation to ethics regulation for those in public office and to establish a Public Sector Standards Commissioner to oversee a complaints and investigations process.	Awaiting Committee Stage (Dáil)
National Archives (Amendment) Bill	To amend the National Archives Act 1986 to reduce from 30 years to 20 years, under certain circumstances, the requirement to transfer Departmental Records to the National Archives.	Pre-legislative scrutiny expected by January 2017
Data-Sharing and Governance Bill	To mandate greater data-sharing and data-linking in the public service, to provide a legal mechanism to facilitate lawful data-sharing and data-linking for all public bodies, and to define standards for data governance and security to be followed in any data-sharing or data-linking activities.	Heads of bill approved July 2015, pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Electoral Commission Bill	To provide for the establishment of an Electoral Commission.	Work is underway
Táilte Éireann Bill	To merge the Property Registration Authority, the Valuation Office and the Ordnance Survey Office.	Heads of bill approved January 2015; bill is progressing
Digital Hub Development Agency (Dissolution) Bill	To dissolve the Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA), repeal the DHDA Act 2003, and to give effect to the merger between the DHDA and Dublin City Council.	Work is underway
Amendment of the Constitution (Removal of Blasphemy) Bill	To provide for a referendum on removing the crime of blasphemy from the Constitution.	Preliminary work has commenced
Garda Síochána (Compensation for Malicious	To provide a revised scheme for compensating Gardaí maliciously	Legal advice is being analysed

Injuries) Bill	injured in their work.	
Official Languages (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Official Languages Act 2003 to ensure the most efficient use of resources.	Heads of bill approved in April 2014; pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place
Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012 to address some issues that have arisen regarding the scope of responsibilities in relation to the recognition of awards and regulation of private and voluntary providers, to ensure adequate protection of enrolled learners where providers discontinue a programme, and to give greater authority to institutes of technology to award Level 9 qualifications.	Heads of bill currently being drafted
Green Climate Fund Bill	To give effect to Ireland's membership of the UNFCCC Green Climate Fund.	Preparatory work is underway
Public Service Management (Amendment) and Civil Service Regulation (Amendment) Bill	To allow greater devolution of management and disciplinary functions.	Work is underway
National Economic and Social Development Office (Amendment) Bill	To dissolve the National Economic and Social Development Office and place the National Economic and Social Council on a statutory footing.	Draft heads of bill under preparation
Irish Aviation Authority (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Irish Aviation Authority Act 1997 to extend the existing powers of the IAA, with regard to its safety regulation function and to recoup costs through fees and charges for its aviation security regulation functions. It will also provide for the recognition of the role of the IAA in compliance monitoring with regard to ICAO Annex 17 (prevention and suppression of all acts of unlawful interference against civil aviation on a worldwide basis).	Work is underway
Industrial Relations Act 1990 (Amendment) Bill	To provide Garda Representative Associations with access to the	Work is underway

	State Industrial Relations Institutions.	
Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 (OWTA) to remove the blanket exclusion of An Garda Síochána and members of the Defence Forces from scope of the OWTA and bring them within scope, subject to the application of the derogations permitted by the Working Time Directive.	Work is underway
Competition (Amendment) Bill 2016	Bill to delimit the application of the Competition Act 2002 to Trade Unions and Trade Union Members and to certain agreements negotiated with public bodies, and to provide for related matters.	Second Stage (Dáil)

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Alicia Compton](#), [Jarleth Heneghan](#), [Cormac Little](#) & [David Cullen](#)

**REAL ESTATE**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Táille Éireann Bill	To merge the Property Registration Authority, the Valuation Office and the Ordnance Survey Office.	Heads of bill approved January 2015; bill is progressing
Landlord and Tenant Law Reform Bill	To update and streamline the general law relating to landlord and tenant.	Heads of bill approved; work is continuing
Industrial Development (Amendment) Bill	To take account of the Supreme Court judgment in <i>Reid vs IDA and the Attorney General</i> to ensure that the IDA has the necessary statutory powers to undertake their property functions (in particular, compulsory purchase orders).	Heads of bill approved July 2016; referred to pre-legislative scrutiny. Drafting is continuing
Mortgages Special Court Bill / Courts (Mortgage Arrears) Bill	To establish a dedicated new court to sensitively and expeditiously handle mortgage arrears and other personal insolvency cases, by imposing solutions on the parties including those recommended by the new Mortgage Arrears Resolution Service. The hearings of this court could be held in private if requested by the debtor.	Pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined
Commercial Rates Bill	To consolidate and modernise the range of legislation concerning commercial rates levied by local authorities.	Heads of bill are currently being prepared

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Edward Spain](#), [Andrew Muckian](#), [Brian O'Callaghan](#) & [Richard Breen](#)

**TAX**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Taxation and Certain Other Matters (International Mutual Assistance) Bill	To transpose elements of the OECD Mutual Convention on Administrative Assistance and the EU/Switzerland Anti-Fraud Agreement.	Heads of bill approved February, pre-legislative scrutiny to be determined

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Martin Phelan](#), [Sonya Manzor](#), [Brian Duffy](#)

**TELECOMS & MEDIA**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Broadcasting (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To amend the Broadcasting Act 2009 to implement a Government decision on the BAI 5 year review of public funding, to address other aspects of the funding of public service broadcasting, and to deal with certain other miscellaneous amendments.	Work is underway
Telecommunications Services (Galway Mayo) Bill	To provide for the assignment to and the acquisition by the Minister of certain rights to land along the Mayo Galway Pipeline for telecommunication services.	Work is underway
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is underway

**Your William Fry contacts:** [Cormac Little](#), [Claire Waterson](#) & [Fiona Barry](#)

**TOBACCO INDUSTRY**

<b>Bill</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Status</b>
Public Health (Sale of Tobacco Products and Non-Medicinal Nicotine Delivery Systems) Bill	To provide for the 1) retail licensing of tobacco products and Non-Medical Nicotine Delivery Systems, 2) prohibition of the sale of tobacco products from self service vending services, 3) prohibition of the sale of tobacco products by persons under 18 years of age, and 4) prohibition of the sale of non-medicinal nicotine delivery systems by, and to persons under 18 years of age.	Work is underway

Your William Fry contacts: [Shane O'Donnell](#) & [Richard Breen](#)