

# WILLIAM FRY

## Autumn Government Legislation Programme Industry & Sector Breakdown

Autumn 2024

The Government Legislation Programme for the Autumn 2024 session has been published. The Cabinet has approved 29 bills for priority publication and 32 bills for priority drafting. Priority legislation includes the Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) (Amendment) Bill, the Remediation of Defects in Apartments and Duplexes Bill and the Energy Performance of Buildings Bill.

Click on the relevant link to view a selection of bills and proposals by industry or sector.

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## ASSET MANAGEMENT &amp; INVESTMENT FUNDS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnership Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved.
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee stage. (Dáil)
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill 2024	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefings <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second stage (Dáil)
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union.	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
[Vincent Coyne](#), [James Phelan](#)

**AVIATION & TRANSPORT**

Bill	Purpose	Status
Merchant Shipping (International Conventions) Bill	To provide for the national implementation of certain International Maritime Conventions, the updating of statutes in respect of other conventions and provision of some miscellaneous maritime safety amendments. The Conventions in the Bill concern safety standards, training and working conditions for fishing vessels and personnel (fishers).	Heads of bill being prepared.
Merchant Shipping (Investigation of Marine Accidents) Bill 2024	Allows for the establishment of a fulltime Marine Accident Investigation Unit in the Department of Transport (similar to Air Accident Investigation Unit and Railway Accident Investigation Unit for air and railway accidents) and the eventual dissolution of the Marine Casualty Investigation Board. It also provides for powers to make regulations for offshore service vessels and the carriage of industrial personnel.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Air Navigation and Transport (International Aviation Agreements) (Amendment) Bill	To make legal provision for the Beijing Convention 2010 and the Montreal Protocol 2014 and the Beijing Protocol 2010 in Ireland in advance of ratification.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Vehicle Roadworthiness Bill	To merge provisions for periodic roadworthiness inspections into a single Act and to update the existing provisions governing roadworthiness testing.	Work is ongoing.

**Your William Fry contacts:**  
David Maughan & Mary Ward

## BANKING &amp; FINANCE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following statutory review of the Personal Insolvency Acts.	Work is underway.
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnership Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved.
Credit Review Bill	To put SI 127/2010 that established the Credit Review Office on a statutory footing.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill 2024	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefings <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second Stage. (Dáil)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Microenterprise Loan Fund (Amendment) Bill 2024	This new legislation is to provide for ownership of Microfinance Ireland (MFI) to pass from its current parentage, the Social Finance Foundation to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and to put in place the related governance structures. It will give greater oversight to a body which is responsible for an increased amount of state sponsored lending than its original mandate. Furthermore, it will create a more established and regular relationship between the funding Department and the body delivering the funding directly to recipient businesses. This will assist the start-ups, micro businesses, and the body itself in giving certainty to the continued existence and development of MFI.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Conclusion of IBRC Special Liquidation and Dissolution of NAMA Bill	To effect the conclusion of the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation (IBRC) Special Liquidation by the end of 2024, and the dissolution of the National Asset Management Agency by the end of 2025. To implement appropriate arrangements to manage any remaining residual activity of both entities following the respective conclusion of their work mandates, including through the creation of a new Resolution Unit within the National Treasury Management Agency to manage any remaining residual activity from 2026 onwards.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union.	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

David Maughan, Lyn Brennan & Padraic Kinsella

## CORPORATE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Industrial Development (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	The primary purpose of the Bill is to amend the Industrial Development Act 1986 to strengthen IDA's provision of (i) environmental aid grants and (ii) consultancy grants. It will also provide that IDA Ireland be permitted to establish jointly owned Designated Activity Companies, with the sole purpose of developing critical industrial and commercial property and infrastructure. This Bill also contains unrelated amendments in respect of Enterprise Ireland (re FOI) and the Health and Safety Authority, related to the length of appointments to the board, and technical enabling amendments to the Dangerous Substances Act 1972.	Revised heads of bill being prepared.
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Miscellaneous Provisions (Transparency and Registration of Limited Partnerships and Business Names) Bill	To reform the Limited Partnerships Act 1907 and the Registration of Business Names Act 1963, strengthening Ireland's regulatory framework and responding to concerns raised in relation to the transparency of Limited Partnerships.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill approved.
Companies (Corporate Governance, Enforcement and Regulatory Provisions) Bill 2024	To enhance and strengthen enforcement and regulatory provisions in the Companies Act 2014. Amendments largely relate to four distinct areas of company law: corporate governance, company law enforcement and supervision, administration, and insolvency.  See our briefings <a href="#">here</a> and <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second Stage. (Dáil)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Restrictive Measures Bill	To create a mechanism by which persons would be obliged to adhere to the asset freezing requirements of certain UN Security Council Resolutions in the period prior to their incorporation in an EU legislative act, i.e. a 'bridging measure', in order to meet Ireland's international obligations and prevent sanctions evasion.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Violation of Restrictive Measures Bill	A Bill to transpose EU Directive 2024/1226 on the definition of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of Union.	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Stephen Keogh, Barbara Kenny, Ronan Shanahan & Andrew McIntyre

## EMPLOYMENT &amp; PENSIONS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) (Amendment) Bill	To address a number of issues identified with the operation of the Protection of Employees (Employers' Insolvency) Act 1984 governing the protection of employees during their employer's insolvency: Addressing Supreme Court judgment by fully transposing Article 2(1) of Directive 2008/94/EC; Incorporating various technical amendments to improve the operation of the Act.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
Registration of Trade Unions Bill	To modernise and consolidate the existing legislation in respect of the registration requirements for trade unions.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Civil Service Regulation and Public Service Management (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Civil Service Regulation Acts 1956–2005 and the Public Service Management Act 1997 to provide that disciplinary action up to and including dismissal in the Civil Service can be assigned below the level of the head of the organisation (Appropriate Authority) and other miscellaneous amendments to modernise the legislation based on the General Scheme, including the establishment of a Senior Post Remuneration Committee.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Licensing of Construction Activity Bill 2023	To provide for the establishment of a statutory licensing system for construction and related activities.	At Report Stage (Dáil)
Employment (Restriction of Certain Mandatory Retirement Ages) Bill	To introduce measures that allow, but do not compel, an employee to stay in employment until the State Pension Age. See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)



Bill	Purpose	Status
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage.  (Dáil)
Maternity Protection (Amendment) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To provide for: (a) amendments to the Maternity Protection Act 1994 to enable a pause in maternity leave for a serious illness; create an entitlement to maternity leave for members of the Oireachtas; and time limits under the Act. (b) amendments to the Employment Equality Act to restrict the use of nondiscrimination agreements in cases of discrimination.	Heads of bill approved.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Nuala Clayton, Ian Devlin, Alicia Compton & Louise Harrison

**ENERGY, RENEWABLES & UTILITIES**

Bill	Purpose	Status
Inland Fisheries (Consolidation) Bill	To modernise and consolidate all enactments since the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959 - itself a consolidation of legislation dating back to the 1800s. The required provisions are highly technical in nature and existing legislation is concentrated on a small number of species. The need is to encompass all species with a very wide cross section of needs and habitat/ecological/water quality/climate change imperatives.	Heads of bill being prepared.
Heat (Networks and Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To establish a regulatory model for district heating that ensures consumer protection and the delivery of a vibrant district heating industry, and to mandate all Public Sector buildings and facilities to connect to district heating where it is available and is technically, and economically feasible.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Gas Safety (Amendment) Bill	To provide number of specific amendments to the existing Electricity Regulation Act 1999, focused on ensuring that third party operators of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) networks are fully incorporated into the CRU's regulatory regime.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)
Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve (Amendment) Bill	To amend GNI functions and introduce regulatory framework, as required in 2024, to support strategic gas emergency reserve development.	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Fergus Devine, Maire O'Neill & Jarleth Heneghan

## ENVIRONMENT &amp; PLANNING

Bill	Purpose	Status
Planning and Development Bill 2023	To review and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 with a consolidated Bill improving the clarity and structure of the current code. See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Land (Zoning Value Sharing) Bill 2024	To permit the State to secure a proportion of the uplift in land values resulting from zoning and designation to facilitate provision of infrastructure.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Just Transition Commission Bill	To establish a statutory Just Transition Commission.	Work is ongoing.
Marine Protected Area Bill	To provide for the designation and effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Irish maritime area.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Aarhus Legal Costs Bill	To extend the revised legal costs provisions of the P&D Bill to some twenty (number of consent regimes from AGs) other environmental consent regimes.	Work is underway.
Energy Performance of Buildings Bill	To partly transpose the requirement of the recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275. See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	To enable the EPA to be more efficient and effective in its determinations by providing a stream-lined approach for decision making and shortening the period for final determinations of the Agency. The Bill will also include some further minor miscellaneous provisions under the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022 and to the Petroleum (Exploration and Extraction) Safety Act 2015.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Air Pollution (Amendment) Bill	To provide for necessary updates to the Air Pollution Act (1987) to support enhanced enforcement and the implementation of the Clean Air Strategy.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Building Standards Regulatory Authority Bill	To establish a Building Standards Regulatory Authority to strengthen the oversight role of the State in respect of the design and construction of buildings and the marketing and use of construction products.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

Liam McCabe, Conor Linehan & Jarleth Heneghan

## FINANCIAL REGULATION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Credit Review Bill	To put SI 127/2010 that established the Credit Review Office on a statutory footing.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Co-operative Societies Bill	To place the co-operative model on a more favourable and clearer legal basis, thereby creating a level playing field with companies and encouraging the consideration of the cooperative model as an attractive formation option for entrepreneurs.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place.
Finance (Provision of Access to Cash Infrastructure) Bill 2024	To provide for access to cash, the regulation of ATM developers and Cash-in-Transit firms.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Criminal Justice (Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing) (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Criminal Justice Act 2010 to ensure that Crypto Asset Service Providers are covered by national law in relation to Ireland's Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing regime.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Publication)
Asset Covered Securities (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Asset Covered Securities Act 2001 to allow for the carrying on of Asset Covered Securities Business by Credit Institutions that are not restricted to the carrying on of Asset Covered Securities Business only and to provide for related matters.	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Shane Kelleher](#), [Louise McNabola](#) & [Patricia Taylor](#)

## LIFE SCIENCES, MED TECH &amp; HEALTHCARE

Bill	Purpose	Status
Health (Adult Safeguarding) Bill	To underpin a planned national health policy for adult safeguarding in the health and social care sector.	Work is ongoing.
Health (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Health Act 2004 to provide for changes to corporate and service planning processes among other provisions. It includes new requirements on the Board and CEO in regard to appropriate systems, procedures and practices to exercise the highest standards of prudent and effective financial and budgetary management and that proposals for corrective action are put in place where expenditure levels have been exceeded.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
National Research Ethics Committee Bill	To provide a legislative framework for National Research Ethics Committees (NRECs) operating in key areas of health research.	Work is ongoing.
Northern Ireland (Planned Healthcare Scheme) Bill	To introduce statutory Scheme enabling persons resident in the State to access and be reimbursed for private healthcare in Northern Ireland by the HSE provided such healthcare is publicly available in Ireland.	Work is ongoing.
Mental Health Bill 2024	To update and replace the Mental Health Act 2001 to give effect to recommendations of an Expert Group Review on mental health legislation.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Health (Amendment) (Licensing of Professional Home Support Providers) Bill	A regulatory framework comprising of primary legislation for the licensing of home support providers, secondary legislation in the form of regulations, and HIQA national standards with the aim of ensuring that all service users are provided with high quality care. This is in line with Programme for Government and Sláintecare commitments.	Heads of bill approved. Undergoing pre-legislative scrutiny. (Priority Drafting)
Health Information Bill 2024	To provide a robust legislative infrastructure for the processing of Health Information support a modern integrated health service. See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second Stage. (Dáil)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Regulated Professions (Health & Social Care) (Amendment) Bill	To amend the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005, the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, the Dentists Act 1985 to create internal operational efficiencies to support the regulators in fulfilling their public protection objectives. A key amendment to the 2005 Act relates to an operational enablement of policy recommendations in the sphere of Sláintecare reform and innovation, i.e. to support health and social care professionals to deliver effective and efficient patient care by enabling physiotherapists to refer for radiological procedures.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
The Patient Safety (Licensing) Bill	The Patient Safety (Licensing) Bill will, for the first time, introduce a licensing requirement for all hospitals, public and private, and certain designated high-risk activities in the community.	Work is ongoing.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Laura Scott](#), [Mark Quealy](#), [Charleen O'Keeffe](#) & [Mary Cooney](#)

**INSURANCE & REINSURANCE**

Bill	Purpose	Status
Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2023	To amend the Financial Services and Pensions Ombudsman (FSPO) Act 2017 to take account of the Zalewski ruling and update elements where the FSPO could be viewed as administering justice.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage.  (Dáil)
Motor Insurance Insolvency Compensation Bill 2024	To transpose Article 10a and 25a of the 6th revised EU Motor Insurance Directive (Directive 103/2009/EC) as amended by Directive (2021/2118).	At Second Stage.  (Seanad)
Health Insurance (Amendment) Bill	To amend the definition of High-Cost Claims Credits in the Health Insurance Act 1994; to amend the Health Insurance Act 1994 to specify the amount of premium to be paid from the Risk Equalization Fund in respect of certain classes of insured persons to make a consequential amendment to the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999 and to provide for related matters.	Heads of bill approved.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Eoin Caulfield](#), [Ian Murray](#), [John Larkin](#) & [Niall Campbell](#)



## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, TECHNOLOGY &amp; DATA PROTECTION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Criminal Justice (Protection, Preservation of and Access to Data on Information Systems) Bill	To give effect to a number of the provisions of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, the EU e-Evidence Regulation ((EU) 2021/784) and the EU Terrorist Content Online Regulation (EU) 2021/784).	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is ongoing.
Communications (Retention of Data) Bill	To replace the Communications (Retention of Data) Act 2011 to reflect advances in technology and consolidate the law on retention of and access to data for national security and prevention of crime purposes.	Work is ongoing.
Criminal Justice (Passenger Name Record) Bill	To comply with an EU Council commitment to extend the EU Passenger Name Record Directive to internal EU flights.	Work is ongoing.
National Cyber Security Bill	The General Scheme will transpose the Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (also known as the NIS2 Directive) into national law, and to incorporate relevant provisions to establish the NCSC on a statutory basis and provide for related matters including clarity around its mandate and role in general and in relation to other actors in the cyber area.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
Data Governance Bill	To assign certain enforcement powers on the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission in its role as designated Competent Authority for data intermediaries and data altruism organisations under the EU Data Governance Act.  See our briefing on the Data Governance Act <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill being prepared.

Bill	Purpose	Status
The Forty-first Amendment of the Constitution (Agreement on a Unified Patent Court) Bill 2024 <sup>1</sup>	Ratification of the Agreement on the Unified Patent Court (UPCA) necessitates a transfer of the judicial jurisdictional power outside of the State. As such, a referendum must be held to allow Ireland to ratify the Agreement. This entails holding a constitutional referendum to facilitate an amendment to Article 29 of the Constitution to include the Unified Patent Court Agreement as an international agreement recognised by the State.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Committee Stage.  (Seanad)
EU Data Bill	The EU Data Act (Regulation) creates a harmonised framework on fair access and use of data, and clarifies who can create value from data and under which conditions, to ensure fairness in the allocation of the value of data among actors in the data economy and to foster access to and the use of data.  See our briefing on the Data Act <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of Bill being prepared.
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is underway.
Copyright and Related Rights (Amendment) Bill	The Bill encompasses the necessary amendments to the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (as amended) following a CJEU judgement in September 2020 and subsequent High Court judgement in February 2021.	Heads of bill approved.  (Priority Drafting)
Regulation of Artificial Intelligence Bill	To provide for, the designations of Competent Authorities, and penalties, to comply with Ireland’s obligations under Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence (Artificial Intelligence Act).  See our guide to the AI Act - <a href="#">William Fry AI Guide</a> .	Heads of bill being prepared.

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[David Cullen](#), [John O'Connor](#), [Leo Moore](#), [Rachel Hayes](#) & [Barry Scannell](#)

<sup>1</sup> In April 2024, the Government announced that the referendum date has been postponed.

## LITIGATION &amp; INVESTIGATIONS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Personal Insolvency (Amendment) Bill	To update aspects of personal insolvency legislation, following statutory review of Personal Insolvency Acts.	Work is ongoing.
Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2024	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009. See our article <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Family Courts Bill 2022	To establish a Family Court as a separate division within the existing court structures.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Intoxicating Liquor Bill	Condensed Bill to introduce certain key reforms from the Sale of Alcohol Bill 2022.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. Drafting is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Civil Reform Bill	To give effect to recommendations arising from the Administration of Civil Justice (Kelly Review). See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Work is underway.
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the current Act.	Work is ongoing.
Equality Acts Amendment Bill	To provide for legislative amendments arising from the review of the Equality Acts.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Seanad Electoral (University Members) (Amendment) Bill	To provide for amendments to the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Act 1937 following the Supreme Court judgment which declared that sections 6 and 7 of that Act are unconstitutional.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Garrett Breen](#), [Laura Murdock](#), [Paul Convery](#) & [Fergus Doorly](#)

## REAL ESTATE &amp; CONSTRUCTION

Bill	Purpose	Status
Registration of Short-Term Tourist Letting Bill	To provide for new regulatory controls requiring short-term and holiday lets to register with Fáilte Ireland with a view to ensuring that houses are used to best effect in areas of housing need.	Work is ongoing. (Priority Drafting)
Land (Zoning Value Sharing) Bill 2024	To permit the State to secure a proportion of the uplift in land values resulting from zoning and designation to facilitate provision of infrastructure.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Planning and Development Bill 2023	To review and replace the Planning and Development Act 2000 with a consolidated Bill improving the clarity and structure of current code.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	At Report Stage. (Seanad)
Licensing of Construction Activity Bill 2023	To provide for the establishment of a statutory licensing system for construction and related activities.	At Report Stage. (Dáil)
Fire Services Bill	To consolidate and update the Fire Services Act.	Work is underway.
Residential Tenancies (Amendment) (No 3) Bill 2024	To allow tenants in rental properties a first right of refusal to purchase a property when it is put forward for sale.	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Remediation of Defects in Apartments and Duplexes Bill	To provide for the establishment of a remediation scheme for apartments and duplexes with fire safety, structural safety and water ingress defects constructed between 1991 and 2013.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)

Bill	Purpose	Status
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) (No 2) Bill	Miscellaneous amendments and additions to the Housing Acts in respect of social housing; regulation of AHB and amendments to the Building Controls Acts.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. (Priority Drafting)
Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill	Miscellaneous amendments and additions to reflect Government housing priorities to the Housing (Regulation of Approved Housing Bodies) Act 2019; and the Affordable Housing Act 2021.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Publication)
Building Standards Regulatory Authority Bill	To establish a Building Standards Regulatory Authority to strengthen the oversight role of the State in respect of the design and construction of buildings and the marketing and use of construction products.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Energy Performance of Buildings Bill	To partly transpose the requirement of the recast Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EU) 2024/1275.  See our briefing <a href="#">here</a> .	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Liam McCabe](#), [Lisa McCarthy](#), [Brian O'Callaghan](#) & [Conor Treacy](#)

## RETAIL, FOOD &amp; AGRIBUSINESS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Intoxicating Liquor Bill	Condensed Bill to introduce certain key reforms from the Sale of Alcohol Bill 2022.	Pre-legislative scrutiny has taken place. Drafting is ongoing. (Priority Publication)
Agriculture Appeals (Amendment) Bill 2024	To amend the Agricultural Appeals Act 2001 to provide, inter alia, for the establishment of an independent Review Panel whose function will be to undertake independent reviews of decisions of appeals officers when requested to do so by the Minister or an applicant. The Bill will also make miscellaneous changes to the 2001 Act.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Public Health (Nicotine Inhaling Products) Bill	To provide for the regulation of nicotine inhaling products such as e-cigarettes.	Heads of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Colette Brady](#), [Nuala Clayton](#), [Ciaran Herlihy](#) & [Kenneth Morgan](#)

## SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Bill	Purpose	Status
Gambling Regulation Bill 2022	To provide for a modern approach to the licencing of gambling activities and to establish a gambling regulator.	At Committee Stage. (Seanad)
Fire Services Bill	To consolidate and update the Fire Services Act.	Work is underway.

**Your William Fry contact:**  
Leo Moore

## TAX

Bill	Purpose	Status
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, providing for mutual assistance or to the relevant provisions thereof: -The Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters done at Strasbourg on 25 January 1988 and amended by the Protocol done at Paris on 27 May 2010. Titles I, II and IV of the Co-operation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States and the Swiss Confederation to combat fraud and any other illegal activity to the detriment of their financial interests, done at Luxembourg on 26 October 2004.	Work is ongoing.
Finance (Tax Appeals and Fiscal Responsibility) Bill	To amend the Finance (Tax Appeals) Act 2015; to make provision for different grades of Appeal Commissioners; to amend the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 to revise the law concerning the making of appeals in matters of taxation; to amend the Fiscal Responsibility Act 2012; and to provide for related matters.	Head of bill approved. (Priority Drafting)
Finance Bill	To give legislative form to taxation proposals in Budget 2025. It will also contain provisions which are consequential on the Budget measures and a number of other changes to the taxation code.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Publication)

**Your William Fry contacts:**

[Sonya Manzor](#), [Ted McGrath](#) & [Colin Bolger](#)



## TELECOMS, DATA &amp; COMMS

Bill	Purpose	Status
Broadcasting (Amendment) Bill 2019	To amend the Broadcasting Act 2009.	At Committee Stage. (Dáil)
Interception of Postal Packets and Telecommunications Messages (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill	To amend various pieces of legislation in respect of electronic communications.	Work is underway.
Communications (Retention of Data) Bill	To replace the Communications (Retention of Data) Act 2011 to reflect advances in technology and consolidate the law on retention of and access to data for national security and prevention of crime purposes.	Work is underway.
Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2024	To update aspects of defamation law, following statutory review of the Defamation Act 2009.  See our article <a href="#">here</a> .	At Second Stage. (Dáil)
Freedom of Information (Amendment) Bill	To update the Freedom of Information legislation arising from the review of the Act.	Work is underway.
Broadcasting Bill	To amend the legislative basis for the governance of the public service broadcasting corporations (PSBs), including assignment of the C&AG to the role of auditor of RTÉ, improvements in the functions of the PSB board, and in the accountability and functions of the PSB Director General, as well as changes to provisions relating to funding and regulatory supervision of public service media (in line with the implementation of Government Decision S180/20/10/1453D of 24 July).	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)
Media Freedom Bill	To transpose the European Media Freedom Act (EMFA). In particular, the Bill will amend the media merger regime under the Competition Act, establish rules in relation to transparency of state advertising and assign a number of functions required by EMFA, primarily to the media regulator, Coimisiún na Meán.	Heads of bill being prepared. (Priority Drafting)

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