

## **Details of Various FOI Networks – Structures and Contact Points**

### **Civil Service Users Network (CSUN)**

This is a network of FOI officers from each Government Department and Office, focussing on practical issues concerning the implementation and administration of FOI across Civil Service Departments and Offices. The purpose of the network is to promote best practice and compliance by Departments with the provisions and spirit of the Act, to increase awareness of FOI issues, and to act as a networking and co-ordination forum to allow FOI practitioners to operate in an environment which promotes high quality decisions and FOI administration.

The Network is currently chaired by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and meets a number of times per year, as required, to discuss particular issues.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

Geraldine Fitzpatrick  
Secretary to the CSU Network, FOI Unit  
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Telephone: (01) 631 2317  
E-mail [foiunit@entemp.ie](mailto:foiunit@entemp.ie)

### **Public Service Users Network (PSUN)**

The PSUN consists of FOI Officers in public bodies outside the civil service. Representatives are drawn from various public bodies and from other networks. The purpose of the PSUN is to promote understanding of and compliance with the Act and to ensure continued and correct implementation of the FOI Act for bodies outside the civil service. The Network is chaired by the Central Policy Unit. Its aims are as follows:

- to deepen understanding among public bodies on FOI
- to identify common approaches and best practices
- to secure and implement guidance from the Interdepartmental Working Group
- to assist in the collation of statistics on the nature and volume of FOI requests received, and
- to advise the Interdepartmental Working Group and the Central Policy Unit in relation to FOI issues.

**For further information, please contact:**

Joe Langan  
FOI Central Policy Unit  
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**Health Service Executive (HSE) FOI Network**

During 2007 the FOI officers network and the corporate and area based decision making functions they support were transferred and transformed into the new HSE Area administrative structure. This change process presented challenges which are ongoing, with FOI Officers taking on additional responsibilities in an expanded role as Consumer Affairs Area Officers with a reporting relationship to a Consumer Affairs Area Manager. Their new role included Data Protection, consumer participation, comments & complaints ( Your Service Your Say ) and records management. A further position as FOI National Lead in the Consumer Affairs corporate function was also filled as part of the new design, this role also expands to include Data Protection and records Management. The National Lead Office is the contact address for non-personal, corporate and national FOI requests. The contact details for the Consumer Affairs Area Officers, National Lead and Area Managers are set out below .

## **Consumer Affairs Area Officers and FOI National Lead**

<p><b><i>Ann Marie Donohue</i></b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE Dublin North-East Unit 7, Swords Business Campus Balheary Road Swords Co. Dublin</p> <p><b>Tel: 01 8908728</b> Fax: 01 8131882 E.mail <a href="mailto:annmarie.donohue@hse.ie">annmarie.donohue@hse.ie</a></p>	<p><b>Mr. Fred Hegarty</b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE Dublin North East St Felim's Complex Cavan Co. Cavan Tel: 049 4360435 / 4360462 Fax: 049 4360494 E.mail: <a href="mailto:fred.hegarty@hse.ie">fred.hegarty@hse.ie</a></p>
<p><b><i>Mr John Cullen</i></b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster Head Office Oak House, Lime Tree Avenue Millennium Park Naas Co. Kildare Tel: 045 880494 / Fax: 1890 200894 E.mail: <a href="mailto:john.cullen@hse.ie">john.cullen@hse.ie</a></p>	<p>Consumer Affairs Area Office HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster Block 4, Central Business Park Clonminch, Portlaoise Rd Tullamore Co. Offaly Tel:057 9357876 Fax: 057 9357881</p>
<p><b><i>Ms Evelyn Murray</i></b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE South Áras Sláinte Wilton Road Cork Tel: 021 4923774 Fax: 021 4923627</p> <p>E.mail: <a href="mailto:evelyn.murray@hse.ie">evelyn.murray@hse.ie</a></p>	<p>Consumer Affairs Area Office HSE South Office Complex Kilcreene Hospital Kilkenny Tel: 056 7785598</p> <p><i>Fax: 056 7785549</i></p>
<p><b><i>Mr Liam Quirke</i></b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE West Merlin Park Regional Hospital Galway Tel: 091 775819 Fax: 091 775858 Mobile: 087 6671603 E.mail: <a href="mailto:liam.quirke@hse.ie">liam.quirke@hse.ie</a></p>	<p><b><i>Mr Ken Lillis</i></b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE West Navenny Street Ballybofey Co. Donegal Tel:074 9189153 /4</p> <p><b>Fax: 074 9130380</b> Mobile:087 6379577 E.mail: <a href="mailto:ken.lillis@hse.ie">ken.lillis@hse.ie</a></p>

## **Consumer Affairs Area Officers and FOI National Lead contd.**

<p><b>Ms. Sinead Kelleher</b> Consumer Affairs Area Officer HSE West Eolas, Customer Services Department 31/33 Catherine Street Limerick Tel: 061 483272 / 061 464202 Fax: 061 483350 E.mail: <a href="mailto:sinead.kelleher@hse.ie">sinead.kelleher@hse.ie</a></p>	<p>Mr Donal Devery National Lead FOI, DP and Records Management HSE Consumer Affairs Corporate Office Block 4 Central Business Park Clonminch Tullamore Co.Offaly Tel: 057 9357880 Fax: 057 9357881 E.mail <a href="mailto:donal.devery@hse.ie">donal.devery@hse.ie</a></p>
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## **Consumer Affairs Area Managers.**

<p><b>Ms. Debbie Keyes</b> <b>Consumer Affairs Area Manager</b> HSE Dublin Mid-Leinster Block 4, Central Business Park Clonminch, Portlaoise Road Tullamore Co. Offaly Tel: 057 9357937 Fax: 057 9357881 Mobile: 086 3852743 E.mail: <a href="mailto:deborah.keyes@hse.ie">deborah.keyes@hse.ie</a></p>	<p><b>Ms. Rosalie Smith-Lynch</b> <b>Consumer Affairs Area Manager</b> HSE Dublin North East Kells Co. Meath Tel: 046 9280551 (Kells) Tel: 049 4360462 (Cavan) Fax: 046 9241459 (Kells) Fax: 049 4360494 (Cavan) Mobile: 086 8185824 E.mail: <a href="mailto:rosalie.smithlynch@hse.ie">rosalie.smithlynch@hse.ie</a></p>
<p><b>Mr. Christopher Rudland</b> <b>Consumer Affairs Area Manager</b> HSE West Merlin Park Galway Tel: 091 775750 Fax: 091 771318 Mobile: 086 8094141 E.mail: <a href="mailto:chris.rudland@hse.ie">chris.rudland@hse.ie</a></p>	<p><b>Ms. Sinead Byrne</b> <b>Consumer Affairs Area Manager</b> HSE South Aras Slainte Wilton Road Cork Tel: 021 4923774 (Cork) Tel: 056 7785598 (Kilkenny) Fax: 021 4923627 (Cork) Fax: 056 7785549 (Kilkenny) Mobile: 087 6826733 E.mail: <a href="mailto:sineadj.byrne@hse.ie">sineadj.byrne@hse.ie</a></p>

## **Local Authorities FOI Network**

The local authorities' FOI Officers meet as a Network on a quarterly basis under the auspices of the Local Government Management Services Board (LGMSB) to discuss issues and share relevant information. The Network is attended by representatives from 44 different organisations/bodies. The Network is primarily made up of representatives drawn from local authorities but also includes the Regional Authorities, the Regional Assemblies and a number of other public bodies e.g. the National Roads Authority, the Local Government Computer Services Board (LGCSB), etc. A number of Network members attend the Public Service Users Network on an ongoing basis.

As of 31 May, 2006 the LGMSB itself was included under the Freedom of Information Act(s) 1997 & 2003 by means of S.I. No 297 of 2006 – FOI Act 1997 (Prescribed Bodies) Regulations, 2006.

### **For further information, please contact:**

Ms. Anne Monaghan/Mr. John Conway,  
Local Government Management Services Board,  
35-39 Ushers Quay,  
Dublin 8.  
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E-mail: [amonaghan@lgmsb.ie](mailto:amonaghan@lgmsb.ie) or [jconway@lgmsb.ie](mailto:jconway@lgmsb.ie)

## **Enterprise Bodies Network**

The FOI Enterprise Network comprises twelve bodies under the aegis of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment - Forfás, Enterprise Ireland (EI), IDA Ireland, Shannon Free Airport Development Company Ltd, FÁS, the Health & Safety Authority (HSA), the Labour Relations Commission (LRC), the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI), the Office of the Director of Corporate Enforcement (ODCE), together with the Crafts Council of Ireland, Skillnets Limited and Science Foundation Ireland who joined the Enterprise Network in 2006. The Network also informally includes four FOI Officers from the Commissioner for Energy Regulation (CER), the Commission for Communications Regulation (Comreg), Údarás na Gaeltachta and Fáilte Ireland.

The Network provides a useful forum for members to share ideas and information, discuss matters of mutual interest and issues arising from FOI requests. A representative from the FOI Unit of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment attends and assists the Network. The objectives of the Network are:

- to promote best practice and compliance with the provisions and spirit of the FOI Acts,
- to gain a deeper understanding and knowledge of the FOI Acts, and
- to keep up-to-date on developments in case law both in Ireland and overseas.

The Network Co-ordinator represents the Network at the Public Service Users Network.

**For more information, please contact:**

Ms. Alva Moloney  
FOI Unit  
Forfás  
Wilton Park House  
Wilton Place  
Dublin 2

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**Higher Education Sector Network**

An Implementation Group has been established in the higher education sector comprising FOI Officers from ten higher education institutions. Its meetings provide a forum to share information, to discuss issues of common interest arising from FOI requests, to co-ordinate training events and to promote best practice.

**For more information, please contact:**

Chairperson: FOI Implementation Group  
Ms. Rena Lohan,  
University Records Manager,  
FOI Unit,  
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University College Dublin,  
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Dublin 4

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**Institutes of Technology of Ireland FOI Network**

The Institutes of Technology FOI Network comprising Athlone, Blanchardstown, Carlow, Cork, Dundalk, Dun Laoghaire, Galway-Mayo, Letterkenny, Limerick, Sligo, Tallaght, Tralee, Waterford, and Tipperary Institute is now well established, with each Institute having an appointed FOI Officer. The Network allows FOI Officers an opportunity to discuss matters arising from the operation of the FOI Act.

**For further information, please contact:**

Peter McGrath,  
Chairperson - Council of Directors of Institutes of Technology FOI Network  
Dundalk Institute of Technology  
Dublin Road

Dundalk  
Co. Louth

Telephone: (042) 9370319  
E-mail: [peter.mcgrath@dkit.ie](mailto:peter.mcgrath@dkit.ie)

### **Voluntary Agencies Network**

In June 1999 a National Network of FOI Officers in voluntary agencies (hospitals and clinics) was established to facilitate co-operation and networking between the various agencies. The Network meets on a bi-monthly basis. The Chairperson represents the Network at meetings of the Public Service Users Network.

#### **For further information, please contact**

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Information Manager and Freedom of Information Officer,  
Information Management Department,  
Rotunda Hospital.

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### **National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Network**

The National Federation of Voluntary Bodies was assigned responsibility by the Department of Health and Children to oversee implementation of the Freedom of Information Act 1997 in the intellectual disability sector. It is represented at the Public Service Users Network and provides ongoing advice and support to member organisations.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

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