

INDEX TO BOOKLET

1. Article: Coronavirus: Taoiseach gives the green light for Phase Three of re-opening to go ahead from Monday
2. Article: Minister Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce
3. Article: SPEND IT' Leo Varadkar urges people to splash cash in restaurants, pubs and cafes as Ireland facing 'mass unemployment crisis'
4. Article: Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to work and promote confidence
5. Article: Staycation rebate 'designed to get people to spend' – Varadkar
6. Article: Golfgate: why some people in power believe they are above the law
7. Article: After 'golfgate' the Irish people's anger at their politicians is palpable
8. Article: Aoife Moore on #Golfgate: One night of barefaced arrogance the final straw for heartsick public
9. Article: Ireland's golfgate fury shows that mouths after Barnard Castle, elites still think they're the exception to lockdown rules
10. Canadian Judicial Council – Complaint Against BC Madam Justice Southin
11. Chapter 5 of Judicial Council Act 2019

[Contribute : Support us now](#)
[Irish News](#)[FactCheck](#)[Voices](#)[Brexit](#)[Covid-19](#)[Newsletters](#)[Podcasts](#)[More](#)

Coronavirus: Taoiseach gives the green light for Phase Three of re-opening to go ahead from Monday

The announcement was made at Dublin Castle this evening.

BY CHRISTINA FINN | THURSDAY 25 JUN 2020, 7:00 PM | [HTTPS://JRNL.IE/5132766](https://jrnl.ie/5132766)



Image: RTE

TAOISEACH LEO VARADKAR has given the green light for lifting of coronavirus restrictions to go ahead from Monday.

Last Friday, Varadkar announced a further re-configuration of the government's roadmap for re-opening the country.

It means that a number of activities that would have been postponed again in Phase Four can now take place in Phase Three.

Speaking this evening, Varadkar said the last three months have been tough on everyone and "as a country we must now try to repair the damage done".

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

No new bad news

Your **contributions** will help us continue to deliver the stories that are important to you

been done across all parts of our lives”.

He said the country has never had to go through something like this and we need to learn lessons and “be prepared for a second wave, or a completely different pandemic or public health emergency” in the future.

The move into Phase Three means:

Pubs can reopen, with various restrictions, once they serve a “substantial” meal worth at least €9

All transport restrictions within Ireland will be lifted

Hotels, restaurants, hostels, caravan parks, galleries and museums can reopen

Churches and places of worship can reopen with restrictions

Gyms, cinemas and leisure facilities can reopen with restrictions

Hairdressers and barber shops can reopen with safety measures in place

All sporting activities, including close contact sports and all leagues, can resume, but with limited spectators

Mass gatherings will be limited to 50 people indoors and 200 people outdoors, though there will be an exception for larger places of worship.

Varadkar also confirmed people arriving in Ireland from certain countries from 9 July will not have to quarantine for 14 days. He said details of these countries on the “green list” will be provided later.

Restrictions will be further eased, it’s planned, **in Phase 1** begin on 20 July.

The National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) met today and a Cabinet meeting took place this afternoon to further discuss Ireland’s progress in lifting the restrictions imposed in March.

Health Minister Simon Harris confirmed the government has decided to make the wearing of face coverings mandatory on public transport, using the emergency health legislation.

RELAT



25.06.2

Taoise
except

JOHN J. JOHNSON

No new
bad news

Your contributions will
continue to deliver the
are important to you

He said there will be a sanction but the detail of this has not been decided yet. Harris said he hoped the message had gone out and this would encourage people to wear coverings.

limit for places of worship

He also said he wanted to thank people in Ireland for their “incredible efforts” in the last three months. He said despite the significant increased movement since restrictions were eased Ireland has seen the biggest drop in new cases across the EU in the past two weeks.

Today there are 31 people with Covid-19 in hospital and 9 patients with the disease in ICU.

THE JOURNAL

No news is bad news Support The Journal

Your **contributions** will help us continue to deliver the stories that are important to you

- *With reporting by Michelle Hennessy.*

TheJournal.ie's coronavirus newsletter cuts through misinformation and noise with the clear facts make informed choices. Sign up here:

Email address

SIGN UP

THE JOURNAL

No news is bad news

Your **contributions** will help us continue to deliver the stories that are important to you



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christina Finn | @christinafinn8 | christinafinn@thejournal.ie

ROPER JOURNALIST

No new bad new

Your **contributions** will h
continue to deliver the s
are important to you

A notice about cookies

This website uses cookies. Some cookies may have been set already. To find out more about our use of cookies you can visit our [Privacy policy](#). By browsing this website, you agree to our use of cookies.

I agree

Press release

Ministers Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce

From [Department of Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sport and the Gaeltacht](https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-media-tourism-arts-culture-sport-and-the-gaeltacht/)
([/en/organisation/department-of-media-tourism-arts-culture-sport-and-the-gaeltacht/](https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-media-tourism-arts-culture-sport-and-the-gaeltacht/))

Published at 26 June 2020

Last updated 26 June 2020

Following its latest meeting this week, the Tourism Recovery Taskforce has submitted an initial report to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross, and Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin TD, which is aimed at helping tourism to survive in the initial reopening period as Ireland emerges from the COVID-19 lockdown period.

The Taskforce is in agreement that if thousands of jobs are not to be lost permanently, action needs to be taken right away to support tourism businesses in the immediate term. Following on from the statement it issued on June 4th, the Taskforce has identified a number of measures which will help to save jobs and businesses across the tourism sector.

Commenting on the Initial Report, The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross, said:

"I welcome this Initial Report from the Tourism Recovery Taskforce. From the start of the COVID-19 crisis it has been apparent that tourism has been very badly hit. As the sector begins to reopen, it is right that Government considers measures to help restore and maintain as many businesses and jobs in the sector as possible. Of course we need to do this in line with public health guidance but I am confident that we can strike the right balance between continuing to suppress the virus while at the same time helping the tourism sector to survive and recover. Pending the Taskforce finalising its work, this Initial Report is a very useful contribution."

The Minister of State for Tourism, Mr Brendan Griffin TD, said:

"I wish to commend the Tourism Recovery Taskforce, and its Chair Ms. Ruth Andrews, for this initial report. As the sector prepares to reopen next week, this is a very timely reminder of the challenges it faces. Since Minister Ross and I first engaged with the industry around this crisis back in February, it has been clear that it is a game-changer for tourism. Whatever the next few days brings in political terms, I am determined that the government will consider these recommendations as a matter of urgency."

ENDS

Notes to the Editor:

In submitting its report to the Minister, the Taskforce has prioritised certain actions for government intervention, as follows:

Tourism Enterprise Survival Supports

- €66 million tourism adaptation grant to provide funding to tourism enterprises towards the capital costs associated with adapting their businesses to meet social distancing measures and interventions necessary to ensure visitors feel safe
- €500 million business survival grant scheme to support viable businesses in distress
- €250 million working capital loan scheme to enable tourism businesses to continue to operate in a post COVID-19 environment
- an extension to the temporary wage subsidy scheme will be required to April 2021 to support tourism enterprises retain highly skilled experienced staff. A review of the current scheme to incorporate seasonal staff employed annually will also be required
- a reduction of the 13.5% VAT rate to 5% to December 2021 and return to the 9% VAT rate to sharpen Irish tourism competitiveness and stimulate consumer demand
- extension of the waiver of commercial rates for the remainder of 2020

International Demand Recovery

The Taskforce supports the interim recommendations of the Taskforce for Aviation Recovery and is also calling for:

- implementation of appropriate test and trace measures as an alternative to the 14 day recommended quarantine to facilitate the restoration of international tourism as soon as possible
- an initial €32 million investment in air access restoration and international marketing of Ireland now that recovery is underway
- appropriate incentives to stimulate inbound demand on short haul routes

Domestic Demand Recovery

- government leadership and support is urgently required to stimulate domestic tourism demand

- in addition to a review of the 2 metre social distancing requirement in all tourism enterprises, a review of the appropriate social distancing measures for functions, events and meetings based on venue size is required as a matter of urgency

Part of

Policies

Tourism (</en/policy/3fcc3a-tourism/>)

Share



(mailto:example@example.com?subject=Ministers Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce;body=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/) Email (mailto:example@example.com?subject=Ministers Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce;body=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/)



(https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/) Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/)



(https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/&text=Ministers Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce;original_referer=) Twitter (https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/bad92-ministers-ross-and-griffin-welcome-initial-report-from-tourism-recovery-taskforce/&text=Ministers Ross and Griffin welcome initial report from Tourism Recovery Taskforce;original_referer=)

BETA

This is a prototype - your feedback will help us to improve it.

Help us improve gov.ie**Leave feedback**

Services and information

- [Agriculture \(/en/category/agriculture/\)](/en/category/agriculture/)
- [Business \(/en/category/business/\)](/en/category/business/)
- [Education \(/en/category/education/\)](/en/category/education/)
- [Employment \(/en/category/employment/\)](/en/category/employment/)
- [Environment \(/en/category/environment/\)](/en/category/environment/)
- [Family and Relationships \(/en/category/family-and-relationships/\)](/en/category/family-and-relationships/)
- [Health \(/en/category/health/\)](/en/category/health/)
- [Housing \(/en/category/housing/\)](/en/category/housing/)
- [Justice \(/en/category/justice/\)](/en/category/justice/)
- [Local Government \(/en/category/local-government/\)](/en/category/local-government/)
- [Money and Tax \(/en/category/money-and-tax/\)](/en/category/money-and-tax/)
- [National Government \(/en/category/national-government/\)](/en/category/national-government/)
- [Social Welfare \(/en/category/social-welfare/\)](/en/category/social-welfare/)
- [Transport and Travel \(/en/category/transport-and-travel/\)](/en/category/transport-and-travel/)

Departments and publications

- [Circulars \(/en/circulars/\)](/en/circulars/)
- [Consultations \(/en/consultations/\)](/en/consultations/)
- [Directory \(/en/directory/\)](/en/directory/)
- [Policies \(/en/policies/\)](/en/policies/)
- [Publications \(/en/publications/\)](/en/publications/)

About gov.ie

- [About gov.ie \(/en/help/about-govie/\)](/en/help/about-govie/)
- [Accessibility \(/en/help/accessibility/\)](/en/help/accessibility/)
- [Privacy policy \(/en/help/privacy-policy/\)](/en/help/privacy-policy/)



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Sign in

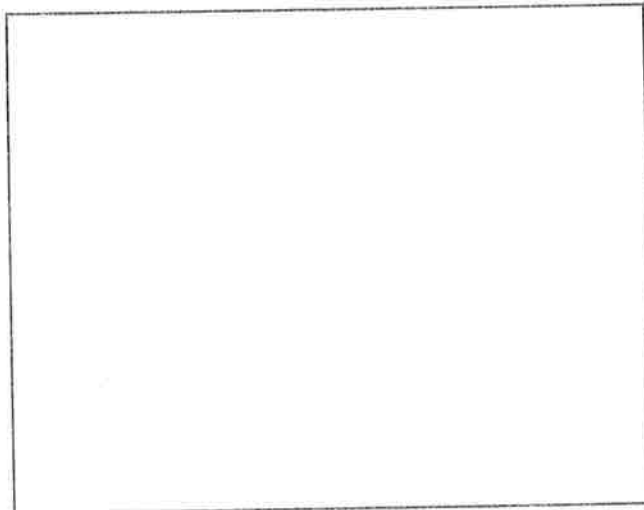
Irish Sun

Search

'SPEND IT' Leo Varadkar urges people to splash cash in restaurants, pubs and cafes as Ireland facing 'mass unemployment crisis'

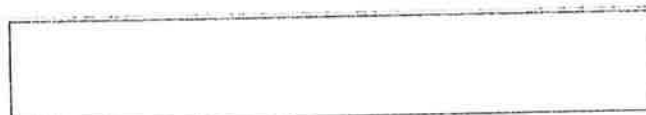
Adam Higgins

29 Jun 2020, 19:44

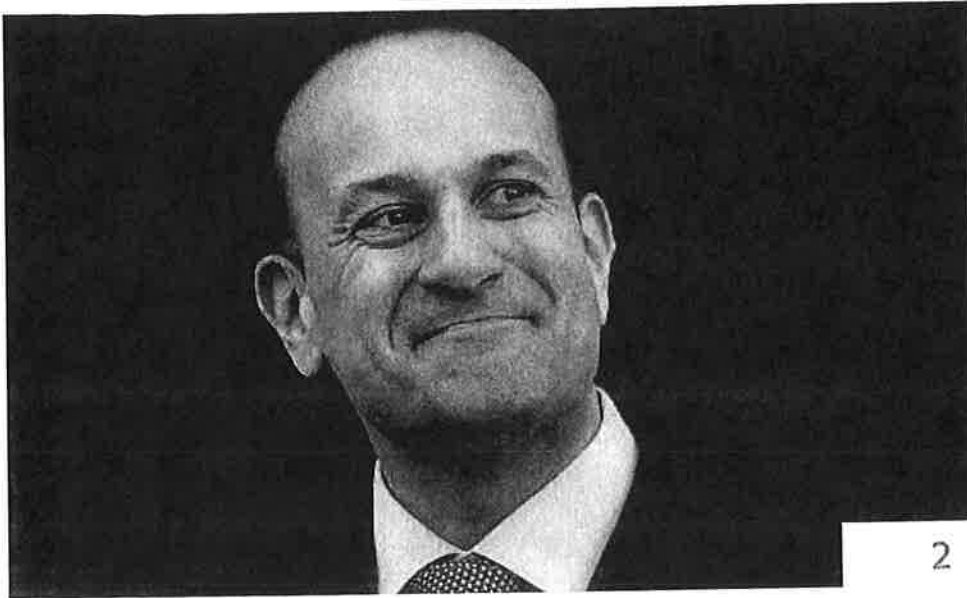


TANAISTE Leo Varadkar has urged people to splash cash in restaurants, pubs and cafes this week to support jobs as Ireland faces into a "very serious mass unemployment crisis."

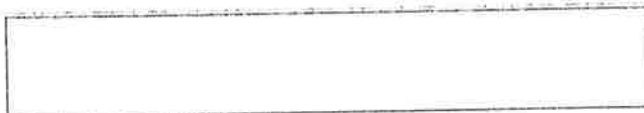
The new Government's team of ministers met today for the first time and immediately started work on a multi billion euro July Stimulus package to get people back to work following the lifting of Covid-19 lockdown measures.

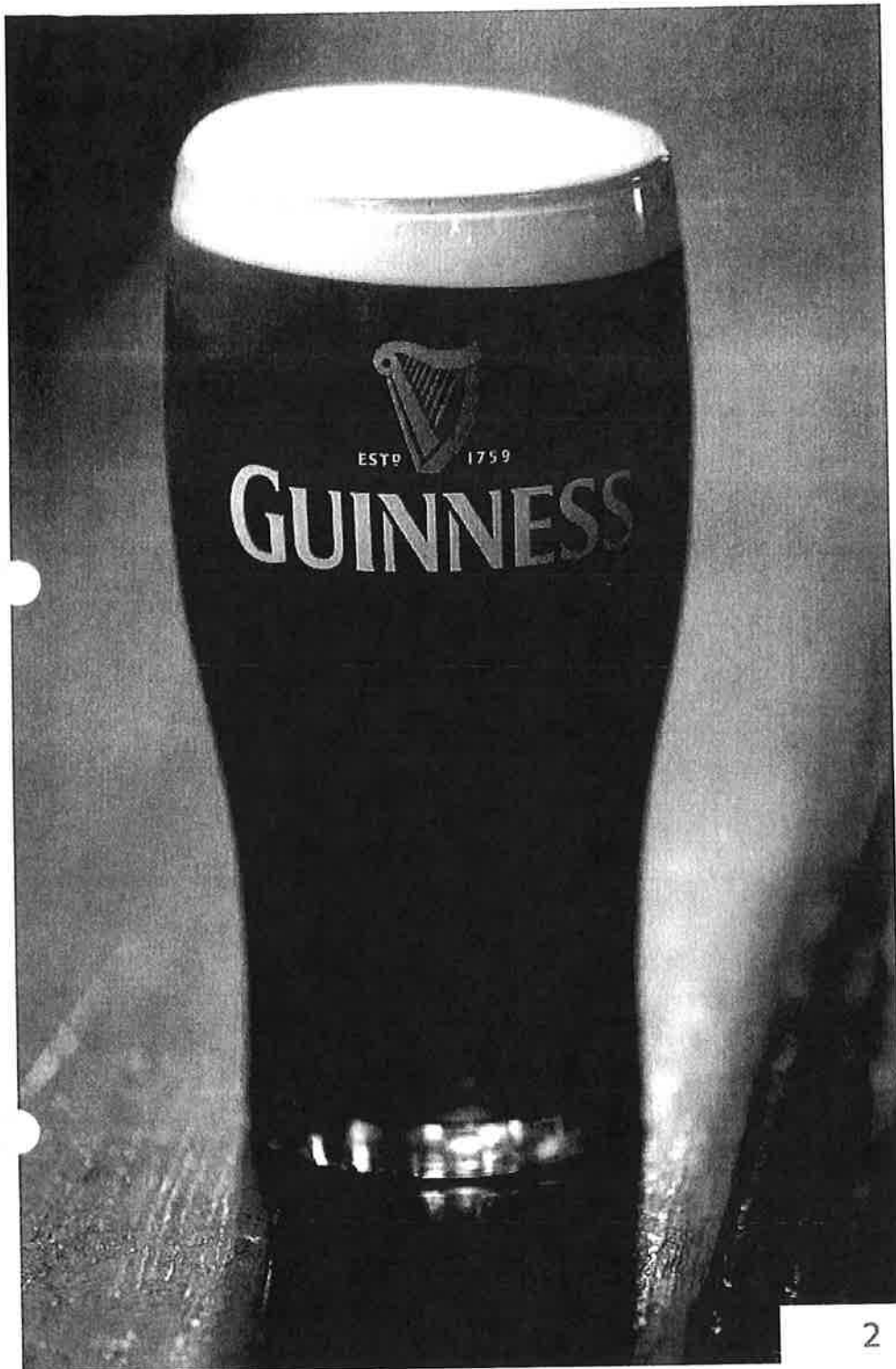


S SPORT NEWS MONEY



Varadkar has urged people to support local jobs in restaurants, pubs and cafes Credit: EPA





Leo says he will celebrate the opening of pubs and restaurants with a pint later in the week

Credit: PA:Press Association

SUPPORT LOCAL



the Irish Sun that he will be visiting restaurants, pubs and cafes in Dublin this week to support the local economy and called on others to spend money if they can afford it.

Asked if he would celebrate the opening of pubs and restaurants with a pint, he said: "I won't be tonight but I will make it my business certainly later on in the week to spend some money in our cafes, restaurants and pubs that serve food and I encourage other people to do as well."

"We need to be very careful about the paradox of thrift. There are hundreds of thousands of people who are really struggling who are now out of work but there's also well over a million who haven't seen their incomes go down through the pandemic with some even seeing their incomes increase that's why we see the amount of saving in the banks increasing."

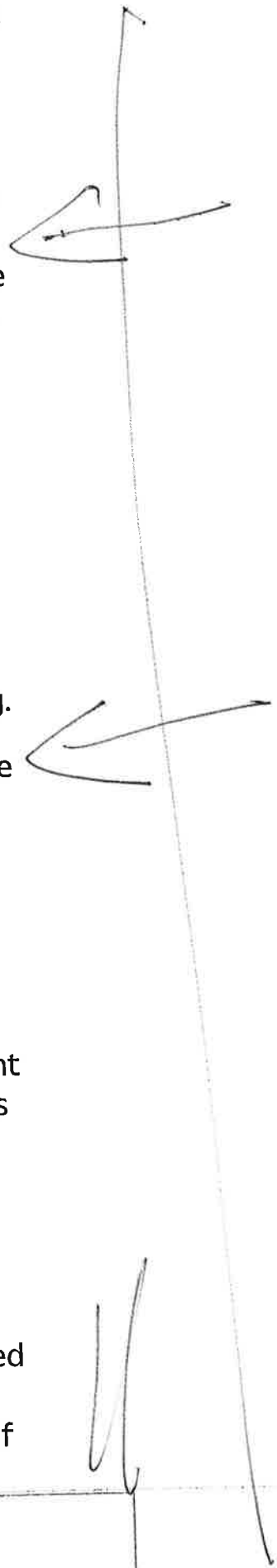
"If you are able to spend money, do spend it because that's the best way you can help other people get back to work."

UNEMPLOYMENT CRISIS

Asked about the July Stimulus package, Tanaiste Varadkar said: "We are facing a very serious mass unemployment crisis in Ireland. Mass unemployment and potential mass insolvency for businesses so this has to be to scale."

"It has to meet the scale of the challenge and secondly it has to be done quickly."

"It can be done in July but ideally closer to the middle of July than the end of July because we need to give businesses and workers confidence and security that their business and jobs will be saved if at all possible over the next couple of months."



S SPORT NEWS MONEY DEAR DEIDRE MOTORS TRAVEL TECH PUZZLES TOPICS A-Z

WHOPPING WIN
Lotto punters in
Kilkenny urged to
check tickets after
massive €5m
jackpot win

TOWN'S ANGER
Publican may
have infected
punters after
working before
getting Covid...

ART CLASS
Primary teacher
with tattooed
EYEBALLS terrifies
kids with all-over
body art

Taoiseach Martin said he had too many meetings to head out for dinner on Monday night while Green Party leader Eamon Ryan said his priority was going to the barbers and "seeing a lot of hair hit the floor".

The new Minister for Climate Action, Communications and Transport Eamon Ryan also encouraged people to holiday at home this summer due to the coronavirus being imported back into Ireland.

Taoiseach Martin said the new Government will be taking advice on opening up Ireland to international travel from health experts in the coming weeks.

Topics

- Covid-19
- Economy
- Pubs
- Restaurants

PROMOTED STORIES



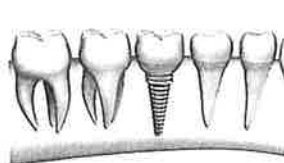
Wanted: 300 Irish Seniors For Revolutionary Ne...
Hear Clear



The Irish Ancestral Home of the Guinness Family...
Mansion Global



Retired Soccer Star John Terry Cuts Half a Million from His...
Mansion Global



S SPORT NEWS MONEY DEAR DEIDRE MOTORS TRAVEL TECH PUZZLES TOPICS A-Z



STEAK AND FLEES
Laughing couple do a runner after £100 of cocktails & steaks at...



BOY ABANDONED
Dad leaves son, 11, at home with stranger for 5 days as he jets off...



PET PEEVE My fella called me a 'pathetic moron' after putting his dog out in...



RATS TO THAT
Workers find 'rat the size of a CAR' in sewer - but all isn't what...



PEEK-A-BOOB
Megan Barton Hanson wows in skintight dress after saying she'll...



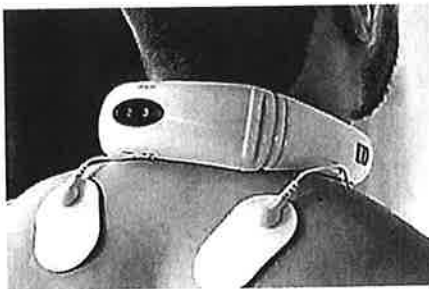
A #GrabBag is a bag full of emergency items in case you need to flee your home immediately without time to pack.

Some of the items that are suggested for the bag include a first aid kit, batteries, a whistle and a torch.

#30Days30WaysUK #HouseholdPreparedness

BAG FOR STRIFE
Council sparks panic with call to prepare bag to 'flee home...

PROMOTED STORIES



Chiropractors Baffled: 59\$ Device Relieves Years of...

NECK SPA



Arthritis or Joint Pain? Doctor Says Do This Firs...

JUPITER LABORATORIES



Leinster Pensioners Are Eligible For Invisible...

BEST HEARING AIDS



Most Powerful Billionaires in the World

WORK + MONEY



S SPORT NEWS MONEY DEAR DEIDRE MOTORS TRAVEL TECH PUZZLES TOPICS A-Z

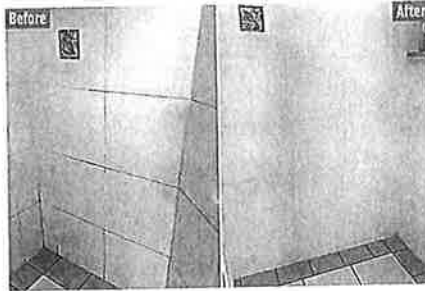
LA BABY Telly star Caroline Morahan is 'bursting with joy' to be expecting her...

The Sun



'NO OTHER CHOICE' Irish expert warns of Europe-wide lockdown lasting 3...

The Sun



KEEPING CLOSE Kourtney Kardashian, 41, hits back over 'weird' friendship wit...

The Sun



SCRUBS UP Mum transforms filthy grout in mins with VERY simple trick & it take...

The Sun

Travel Selfies That Weren't Worth the Risk

SPONSORED - FAR & WIDE

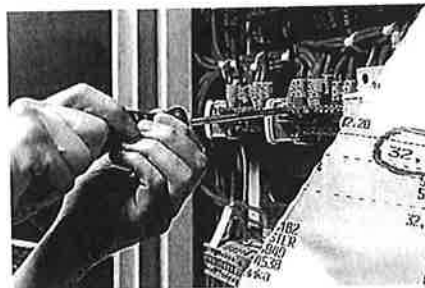
27 Seconds That Can Take Years Off Your Face...

SPONSORED - THEDAILY



Barack and Michelle Obama Reportedly Clos...

SPONSORED - MANSION GLOBAL



How Much Could You Save On Your Energy in 2020?

SPONSORED - THE ECO EXPERTS



The Sun



OH, BUMMER! My boyfriend thinks that it is normal behaviour to pat women o...

The Sun

The Sun



TELLY SPACE Gogglebox's Cabra Girls to lose member as show adapts to Dublin...

The Sun

FOLLOW THE SUN

[Sign Up To The Sun](#)

[Terms and Conditions](#)

[Editorial Complaints](#)

[Clarifications and Corrections](#)

[Syndication](#)

[Advertising](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Help Hub](#)

[Cookie Settings](#)

[Contact Preferences](#)

©News Group Newspapers Limited in England No. 679215 Registered office: 1 London Bridge Street, London, SE1 9GF. "The Sun", "Sun", "Sun Online" are registered trademarks or trade names of News Group Newspapers Limited. This service is provided on News Group Newspapers' Limited's [Standard Terms and Conditions](#) in accordance with our [Privacy & Cookie Policy](#). To inquire about a licence to reproduce material, visit our [Syndication](#) site. View our online Press Pack. For other inquiries [Contact Us](#). To see all content on The Sun, please use the Site Map. The Sun website is regulated by the [Independent Press Standards Organisation \(IPSO\)](#)..



A notice about cookies

This website uses cookies. Some cookies may have been set already. To find out more about our use of cookies you can visit our Privacy policy. By browsing this website, you agree to our use of cookies.

I agree

Press release

Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to work and promote confidence

From [Department of the Taoiseach \(/en/organisation/department-of-the-taoiseach/\)](/en/organisation/department-of-the-taoiseach/)

Published at 23 July 2020

Last updated 23 July 2020

The Government has today announced the [July Jobs Stimulus](https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/5654a-july-jobs-stimulus/), (<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/5654a-july-jobs-stimulus/>), a €7.4 billion package of measures designed to stimulate a jobs-led recovery and build economic confidence while continuing to manage the impact of COVID-19.

Launching the Jobs Stimulus, the Taoiseach, Micheál Martin TD said:

"The stimulus package announced today will protect existing jobs while creating new and sustainable employment options in the months and years ahead. These measures will support small and medium businesses, give young people greater opportunities in training and education, support workers who have lost their jobs because of the pandemic and rejuvenate communities worst affected by the economic impact of the virus. This is a comprehensive plan which will boost the economy and bring confidence back to towns and villages across Ireland."

The July Jobs Stimulus will provide a boost to the economy, building confidence and moving us towards a more sustainable future across all of our regions. This is the next stage of the national recovery and will immediately build on the billions in supports already provided during the crisis.

Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Leo Varadkar TD said:

"This has been a time of enormous stress and strain for employers and their staff. We've already pumped billions of euro into the economy through wage subsidies, the PUP, cash for businesses, low cost loans and commercial rates waivers. We know these actions have made a difference. We've made enormous progress on suppressing the virus, and significant progress too on restarting our economy. More than 280,000 people have already got back to work. Repairing the damage wrought on the economy - and keeping the virus contained - is vital for the wellbeing of our people. Today's stimulus package is the next step in our national recovery story. It is designed to help businesses which haven't reopened yet and those struggling to do so. We have listened to businesses and responded with a package of scale and speed to meet their most immediate needs. Our main objective is to save jobs and create new ones."

COVID-19 has had an enormous impact on communities, businesses, families and individuals across the country. The priority of the government remains the wellbeing of our people and communities. We are now increasing our focus on business and on getting as many people as possible back to work.

Minister for Climate Action, Communications Networks and Transport, Eamon Ryan TD said:

"This July Jobs initiative is a substantial first step on our road to a sustainable recovery. It invests in our people and our infrastructure in a way that will provide jobs and support our climate and environment goals. We can and will get through this, and we can build back greener and better, for the sake of our children, our communities and our planet."

The measures being launched today are designed to do 4 things:

Backing Ireland's Businesses

- a new Employment Wage Support Scheme will succeed the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme, and run until April 2021
- 0% interest for first year of SME loans
- Restart Grant for Enterprises is being extended and expanded
- the waiver of commercial rates extended until end-September 2020
- a €2 billion COVID-19 Credit Guarantee Scheme
- other business finance measures, including supports for start-ups

Helping People, especially young people, get back to work

- extension of the Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP) to 1 April 2021

- €200 million investment in training, skills development, work placement schemes, recruitment subsidies, and job search and assistance measures
- 35,000 extra places will be provided in further and higher education.
- further supports for apprenticeships

Building Confidence and investing in communities

- financial Certainty through the Enterprise Wage Support Scheme, the Pandemic Unemployment Scheme, Rates waivers and so on
- €500 million investment in communities
- investment in schools, walking, cycling, public transport, home retrofitting, and town & village renewal
- tax measures including a temporary reduction in the standard rate of VAT
- Stay and Spend initiative
- targeted measures for most vulnerable sectors

Preparing Ireland for the Economy of the Future

- €25 million Investment in Life Sciences
- Training and Skills Development
- €10 million to be provided under a New Green Enterprise Fund
- increase in Seed and Venture Capital for innovation driving enterprises
- additional supports for IDA promotional and marketing initiatives targeting jobs
- additional supports to businesses to develop their online presence.
- €20 million Brexit fund to help SMEs to prepare for new customs arrangements
- expansion of Sustaining Enterprise Fund scheme

The July Jobs Stimulus is the next step in the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Later this year the government will set out a National Economic Plan, to chart a long term, jobs-led recovery. It will set out how we secure our public finances in a

world where we must live with COVID-19, while driving efforts to decarbonise our economy and prepare for the next phase of technological transformation.

ENDS

For more information go to gov.ie/JobsStimulus.

(<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/5654a-july-jobs-stimulus/>).

Part of

Campaigns

July Jobs Stimulus (</en/campaigns/5654a-july-jobs-stimulus/>)

Share



(mailto:example@example.com?subject=Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to work and promote confidence;body=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/) Email (mailto:example@example.com?subject=Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to work and promote confidence;body=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/)



(<https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/>) Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/>)



(<https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/&text=Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to>

work and promote confidence;original_referer=) Twitter
(https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?url=http://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/07aef-government-launches-74-billion-jobs-stimulus-to-help-businesses-re-open-get-people-back-to-work-and-promote-confidence/&text=Government launches €7.4 billion Jobs Stimulus to help businesses re-open, get people back to work and promote confidence;original_referer=)

BETA

This is a prototype - your feedback will help us to improve it.

Help us improve gov.ie**Leave feedback**

Services and information

[Agriculture \(/en/category/agriculture/\)](/en/category/agriculture/)
[Business \(/en/category/business/\)](/en/category/business/)
[Education \(/en/category/education/\)](/en/category/education/)
[Employment \(/en/category/employment/\)](/en/category/employment/)
[Environment \(/en/category/environment/\)](/en/category/environment/)
[Family and Relationships \(/en/category/family-and-relationships/\)](/en/category/family-and-relationships/)
[Health \(/en/category/health/\)](/en/category/health/)
[Housing \(/en/category/housing/\)](/en/category/housing/)
[Justice \(/en/category/justice/\)](/en/category/justice/)
[Local Government \(/en/category/local-government/\)](/en/category/local-government/)
[Money and Tax \(/en/category/money-and-tax/\)](/en/category/money-and-tax/)
[National Government \(/en/category/national-government/\)](/en/category/national-government/)
[Social Welfare \(/en/category/social-welfare/\)](/en/category/social-welfare/)
[Transport and Travel \(/en/category/transport-and-travel/\)](/en/category/transport-and-travel/)

Departments and publications

[Circulars \(/en/circulars/\)](/en/circulars/)
[Consultations \(/en/consultations/\)](/en/consultations/)
[Directory \(/en/directory/\)](/en/directory/)
[Policies \(/en/policies/\)](/en/policies/)
[Publications \(/en/publications/\)](/en/publications/)

About gov.ie

[About gov.ie \(/en/help/about-govie/\)](/en/help/about-govie/)
[Accessibility \(/en/help/accessibility/\)](/en/help/accessibility/)

[Privacy policy \(/en/help/privacy-policy/\)](/en/help/privacy-policy/)



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Staycation rebate 'designed to get people to spend' - Varadkar

Updated / Friday, 24 Jul 2020 18:56



The Government agreed a €5bn package of 50 new measures to boost economic recovery

Tánaiste Leo Varadkar has said the Stay and Spend tax rebate in the Government's July stimulus plan is "designed to get people to spend".

He also said there has been a huge increase in the amount of money people are saving at the moment.

Speaking on RTÉ's Today with Sarah McInerney, Mr Varadkar said despite so many losing their jobs during the pandemic, there are "millions of people who have not seen their incomes go down" and are making savings.

Mr Varadkar: "If we can get people to spend money, that will help get money back into the economy."

The Government yesterday agreed a €5bn package of 50 new measures to boost economic recovery and get people back to work.

The Stay and Spend tax rebate worth up to €125 per person is to assist the tourism sector in the off-season based on a spend of €625 is also included.

Mr Varadkar said the rebate is ultimately about getting those who have lost their jobs back to work.

he said. This isn't targeted at people who haven't seen their payments reduced. This is targeted at those who have lost their jobs. It is not about the person sitting in the restaurant; it is about the person who used to work in the restaurant.

"This is designed to get people spending, so more of those people on the Pandemic Payment can get back to work."

Meanwhile, Sinn Féin has described the July stimulus package as a "big missed opportunity" which does not deal with the "quantum of the problems in the tourism and hospitality".

Speaking on RTÉ's Morning Ireland, Sinn Féin's Finance spokesperson Pearse Doherty said "we needed more ambition" and for the plan to be more targeted and fair.

Mr Doherty criticised the "staycation" proposal as very cumbersome and excludes a million workers, carers and the unemployed.

He said if you go to a restaurant in October, the State is subsidising one table by 20% and giving nothing to another table and the one not being supported is the low income table and the person who needs a break.

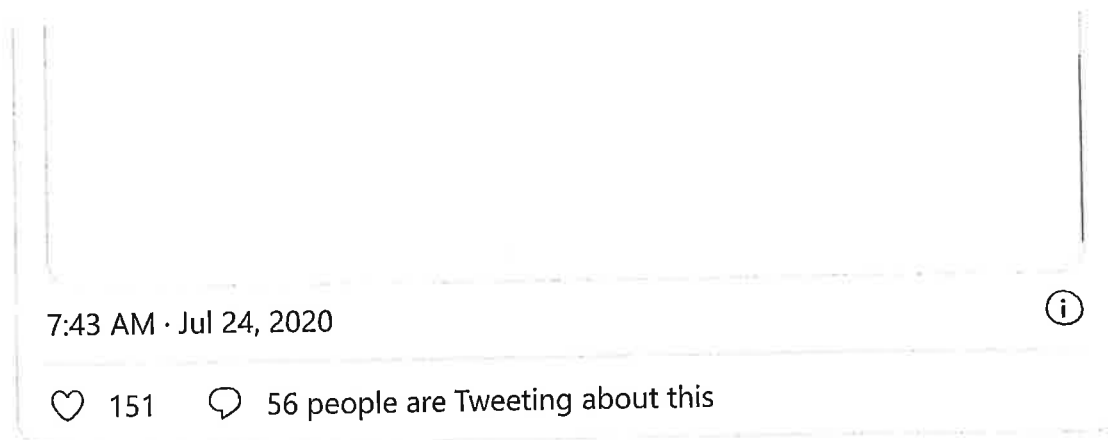
He also said the Government's €300m in grant aid is "paltry" and excludes sole traders and the reduction on VAT should have specifically targeted the tourism and hospitality sectors and should have been cut to 9%.

Mr Doherty said that this would have paid for itself by the end of the year by getting people back to work and off the Pandemic Unemployment Payment.

RTÉ News 
@rtenews



"We have a ridiculous situation" where you could go into a restaurant in October to see two identical meals served to two tables, with the State subsidising one by 20% while the other gets no support, because they're low-income, Sinn Féin's
@PearseDoherty tells @MorningIreland



Mr Varadkar explained why a voucher scheme as suggested by Sinn Féin would not work, saying that with PPS numbers they could run the risk of giving vouchers to those who do not live here anymore.

Mr Varadkar said: "If you went for a voucher system you would find yourself in something pretty chaotic quite soon. Take for example the electoral register for example; everyone knows how inaccurate that is. So that Sinn Féin idea has not been properly thought through."

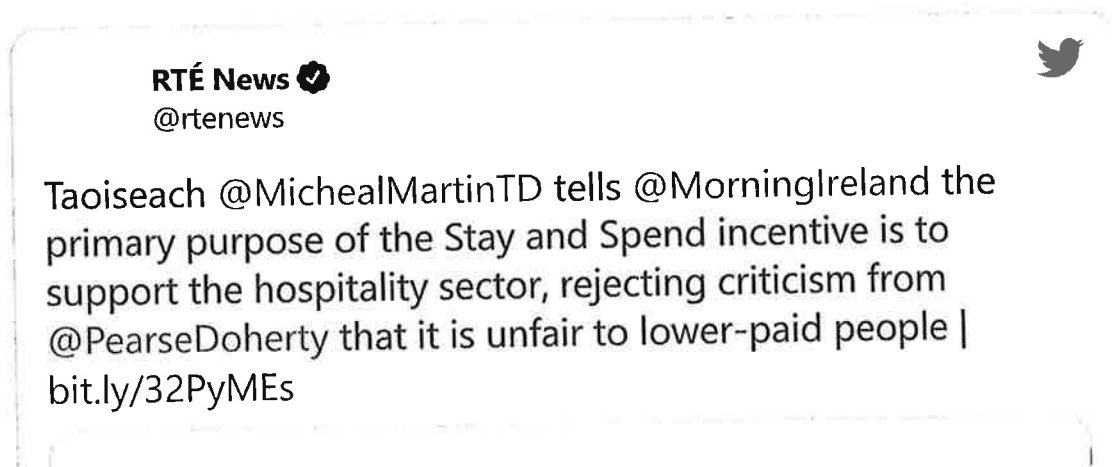
With the stimulus package, he said there are also a huge amount of opportunities to retrain for those who cannot go back to their current jobs.

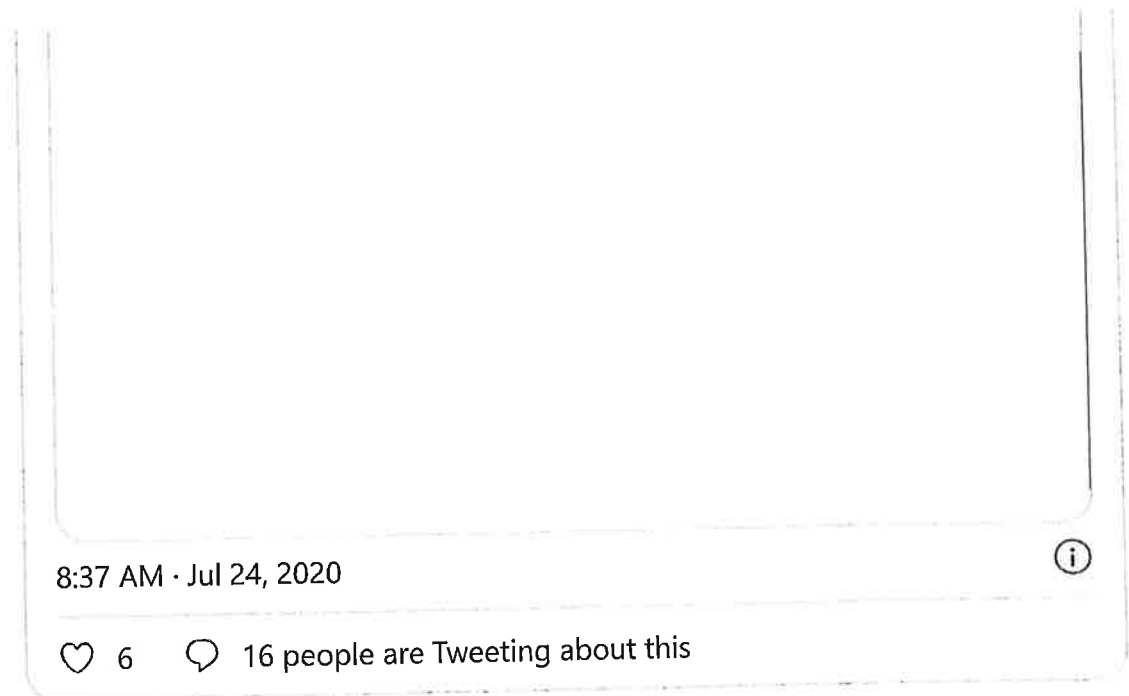
Green Party leader Eamon Ryan said the Government's stimulus package is an attempt to protect workers, saying a "huge amount" is going to the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme and also by extending the Pandemic Unemployment Payment until April.

Mr Ryan said: "What we are doing is borrowing to avoid people running into hardship. There has never been such an input of money to try to protect workers."

He said reskilling programmes are also an integral part of the stimulus package as a chance to create new jobs "and that is a responsible approach that this government is taking".

The Taoiseach said the July stimulus plan is a significant and powerful stimulus and is designed to ensure companies can stay intact and get through the coming months.



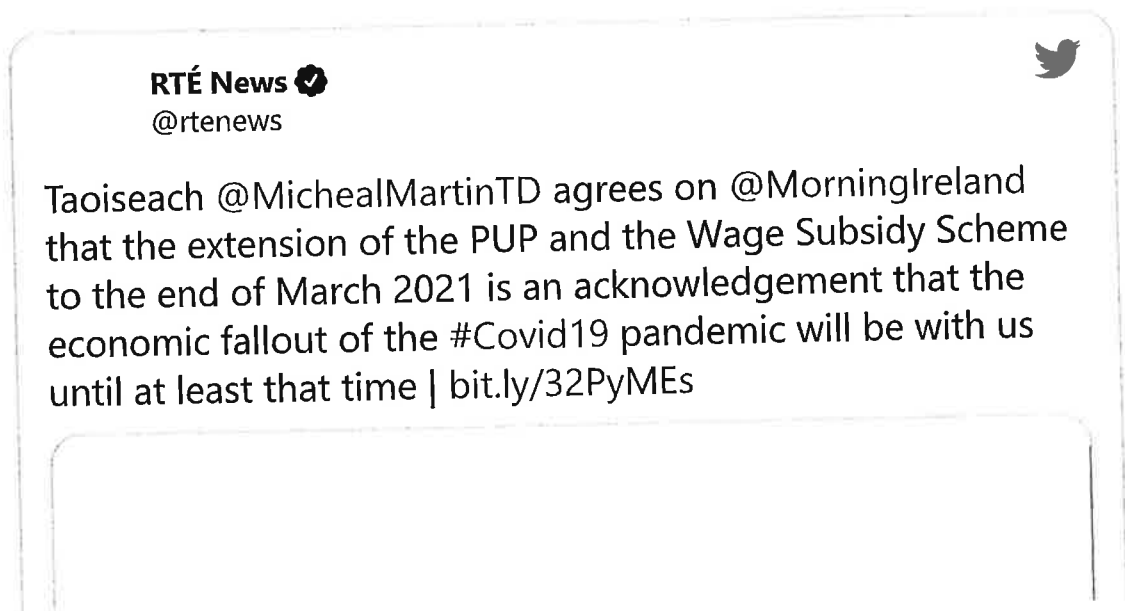


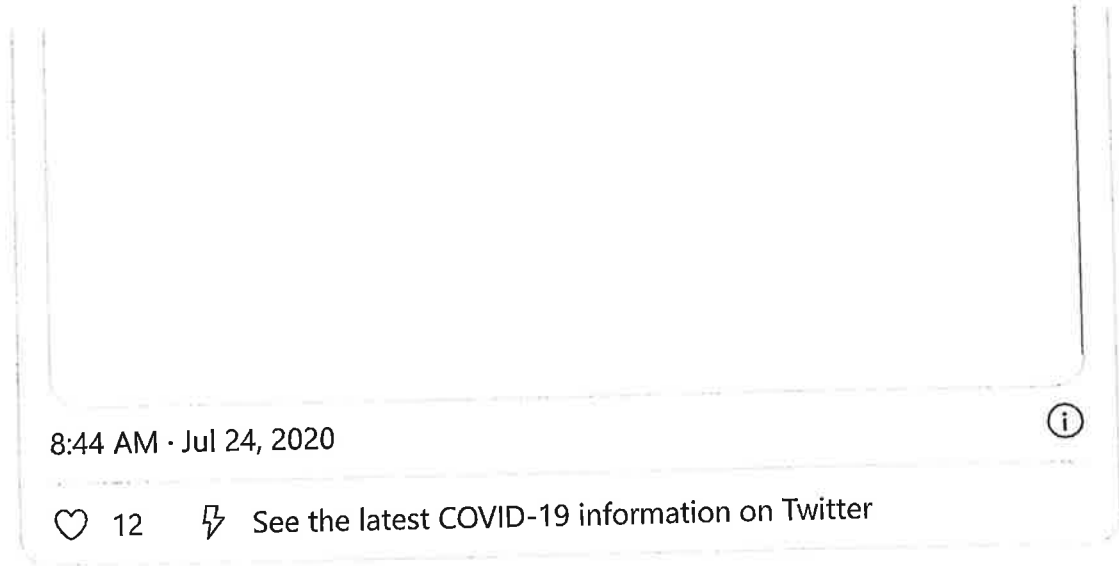
Micheál Martin said the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme will support the tourism and hospitality sector and agreed that doing so acknowledges that "normality will not return" before the spring.

He said the PUP will be phased out over a longer term with significant funding to do so, but this will allow people to reorientate towards jobs in different sectors and the October Budget will review the situation further.

Mr Martin said that Mr Doherty's "very negative sloganeering outburst" focuses on one element of the package, ignoring the labour activation measures and the job support and reskilling initiatives.

He said the Government want to create jobs in new areas and support people who have lost jobs to adapt and re-skill and get jobs in sectors that are thriving, such as the digital sector and in retrofitting.





Mr Martin added that the Government is looking at sectors where new jobs can be created such as in bog redevelopment and in developing new cycle routes and greenways.

He said the minor capital works scheme doubled for every school in the country will reach into the regions and make sure there is enough cash around to keep people at work.

News Headlines

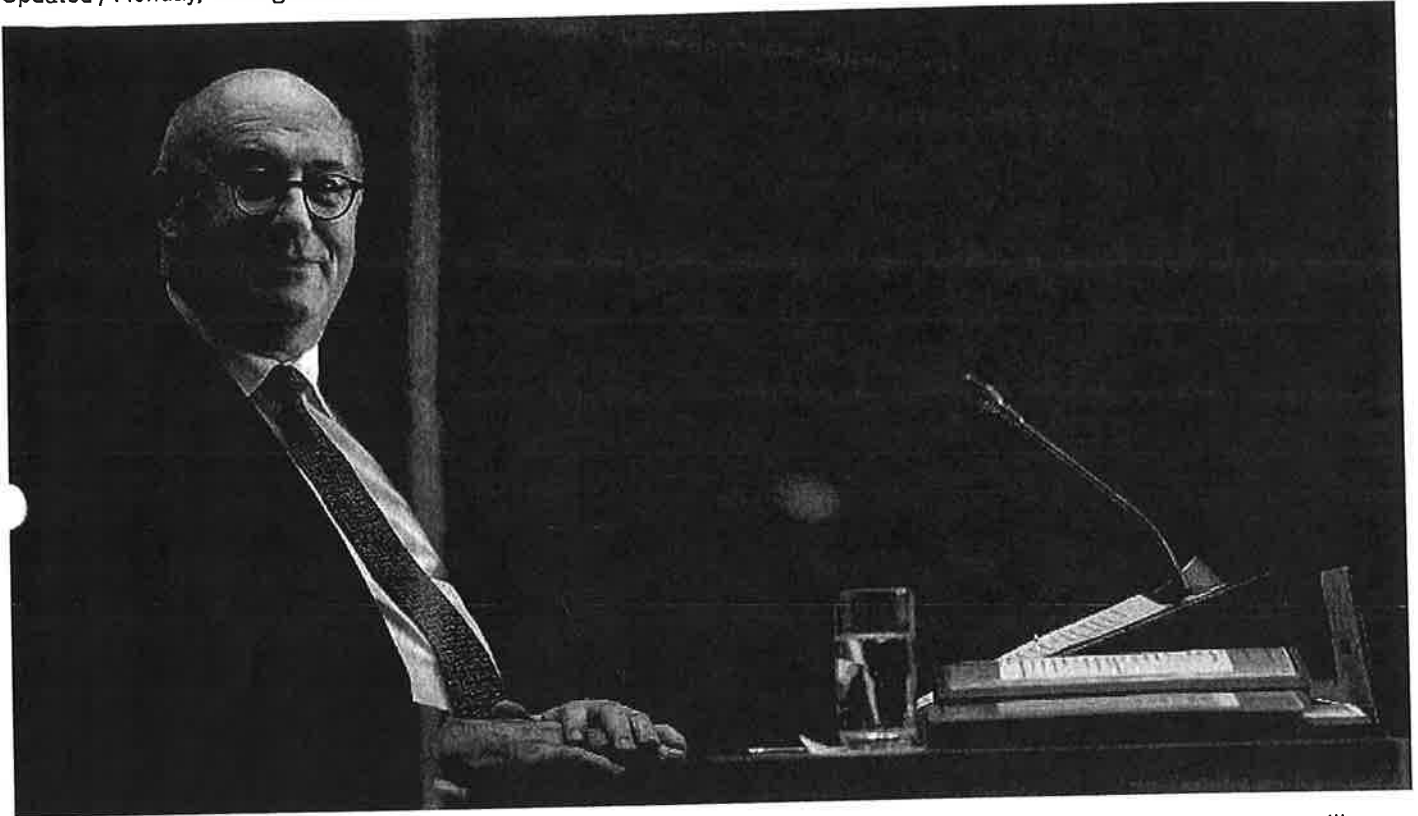
The latest headlines from the RTÉ Newsroom - straight to your inbox.

[Sign Me Up](#)

Article printed from RTE.ie

Golfgate: why some people in power believe they are above the law

Updated / Monday, 24 Aug 2020 09:32



Ireland's EU Commissioner Phil Hogan who attended the Oireachtas Golf Society dinner (and won a George Foreman grill on the night)

Opinion: when we view power as dominance, it is often just a hop, skip and jump away from developing an attitude of entitlement

Last Thursday, the Irish Examiner ran a story which reported that more than 80 people attended an Oireachtas Golf Society dinner at a hotel in Clifden, Co Galway. The controversy over this outing has dominated the airwaves and media since.

So why did a summer golfing get-together illicit so much public outcry? Quite simply, it appears to have contravened Ireland's public health Covid-19 restrictions at a time when the people of Ireland are battling a rise in new cases. The dinner occurred a day after the government re-introduced new guidelines aimed at combatting the spread of Covid-19. It came when people in three counties were awaiting details on whether they were staying in or coming out of local lockdowns. The story broke at a time when anxiety about our vulnerable loved ones becoming ill is a constant fear that keeps us awake at night.

From RTÉ Radio 1's Liveline, callers give their reaction to the Oireachtas Golf Society event in Clifden

All of the above has resulted in public frustration but, more importantly, the people of Ireland have become disillusioned and disheartened. This dismay is further compounded by the public profile of the attendees, including a government minister Dara Calleary (who resigned the morning after the story broke), TDs, senators, EU Commissioner Phil Hogan, former MEP Brian Hayes, Supreme Court judge and former attorney-general Seamus Woulfe, the Moroccan ambassador and recently retired RTÉ broadcaster Sean O'Rourke.

So why did these senior public representatives, whose role entitles them to hold significant power, feel that the rules that apply to others did not apply to them? Perhaps the answer lies in social psychology. For years, social psychologists have determined that power shapes our social behaviour. For example, studies show that many people who perceive themselves to have powerful roles tend to smile less, speak louder, be more impatient with others and interrupt others more while continuously trying to draw attention to themselves.

From RTÉ Radio 1's This Week, Fianna Fail's Jim O'Callaghan, Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald and Tánaiste Leo Varadkar discuss the golfgate fallout

This behaviour is indicative of the features of dominance. When we begin to view power as dominance, it is often just a hop, skip and jump away from developing an attitude of entitlement - and we all know how supercilious someone can become once this mindset is instilled. According to research, 'entitled people' tend to cut in line, insist on special treatment and are more likely to create conflict, break the rules, behave dishonestly, and act selfishly.

Being a megalomaniac or, if you like, drunk on power is a fitting metaphor to explain the likely overbearing behaviour of the person with a high sense of entitlement. From the office bully putting down colleagues to the politician believing he or she is above the law, these individuals exhibit some of the least appealing aspects of human nature.



From RTÉ 2fm's Louise McSharry Show, The Irish Examiner's Aoife Moore, who broke the #Golfgate story, on the ramifications of the now infamous dinner.

How does this inappropriate use of power and this sense of entitlement affect the general public? One major newsflash that won't come as a surprise to any of us is that people often experience difficulty dealing with people with a strong sense of entitlement. Indeed, did you know that intermingling with highly entitled people can lower your well-being? Regrettably, many politicians exhibit what psychological research depicts as dominating and self-serving

behaviours. The general public have a responsibility to be clear on our perception of what constitutes genuine power.

While controversy and public outcry has led to a Garda investigation into the Oireachtas golf society dinner in Clifden and has had serious consequences for some of those who attended, it is true to say that others involved are firmly holding to their line of defence. There are numerous examples of powerful people denying responsibility for their conduct in which they played and acknowledge playing a role.

The social psychology concept of cognitive dissonance can explain this conundrum. A politician may view himself or herself as a powerful and clever human being that is an exemplary role models for all of society. But when a situation involving them occurs in the absence of adequate justification, such as #Golfgate, and which is clearly at odds with the person's opinion of themselves, or the opinion that they want to portray to others, the person will experience dissonance.

Not everyone with power morphs from Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde and we must accept that people in power can indeed make human mistakes

Dissonance gives rise to uncomfortable feelings of guilt, regret and embarrassment. In order to justify this behaviour and to reduce these awkward feelings, the person has two choices. They can either hold up their hands and admit that they have made a grave mistake and accept the consequences. The alternative is to minimise their role and responsibility in the proceedings by rushing to convince themselves and others that their line of defence is really the truth.

The interplay between power, entitlement, attitude and dissonance will continue to be repeated throughout history. Of course, not everyone with power morphs from Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde and we must accept that people in power can indeed make human mistakes. While people continue to hold high levels of power, there will always be scandals that will cause public outcry. The antidote is quite simply humility. For those whose emotional intelligence has yet to mature to understand fully this concept, do not fear, as many leadership experts have put forward theories that the detrimental traits of megalomania can be mitigated through social responsibility training. One can but hope!

The views expressed here are those of the author and do not represent or reflect the views of RTÉ

Sign in

Support us →

News Opinion Sport Culture Lifestyle

World ► Europe US Americas Asia Australia Middle East Africa Inequality

Opinion

🕒 This article is more than 1 month old

After 'golfgate' the Irish people's anger at their politicians is palpable

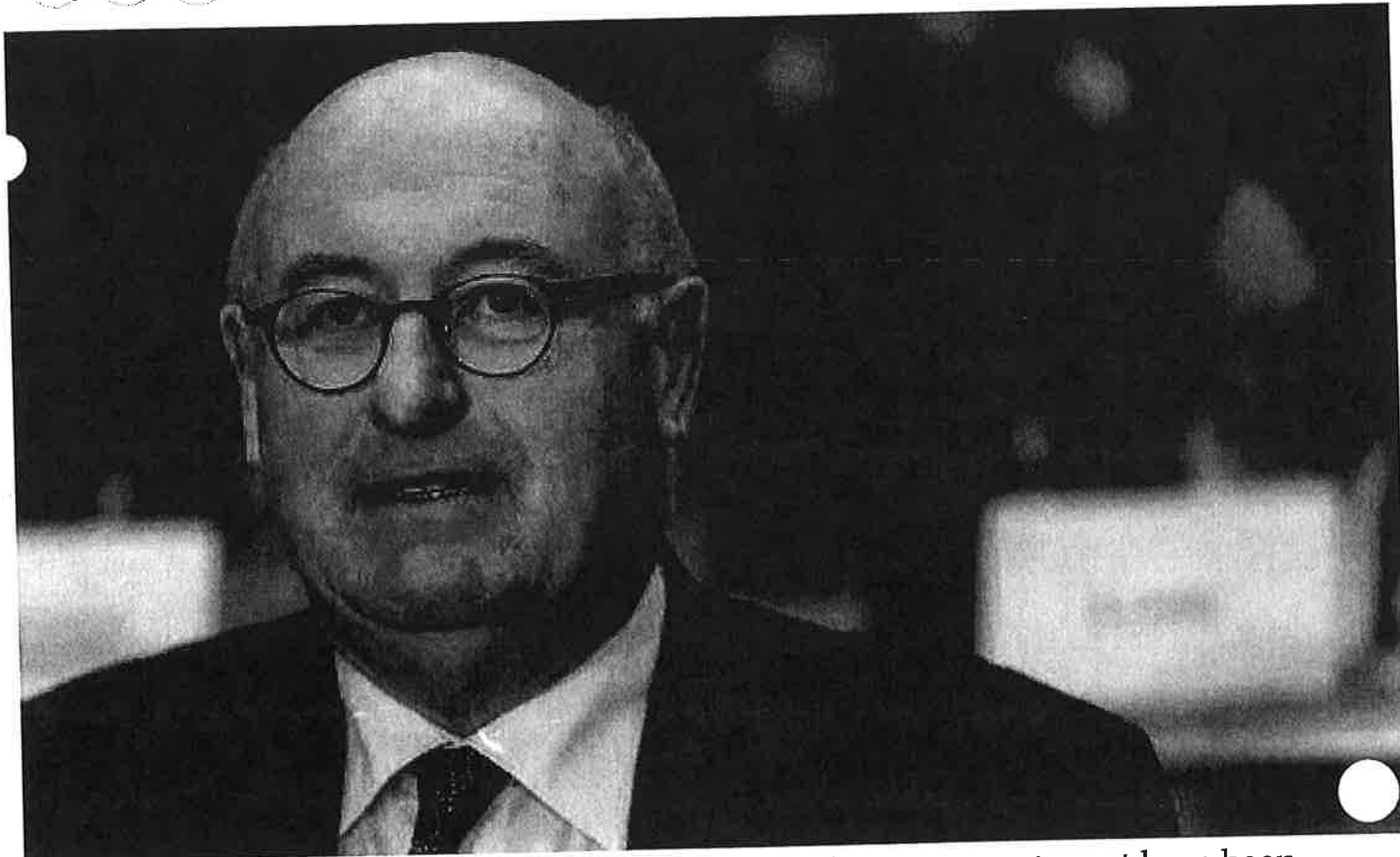
Una Mullally

The apparent breach of Covid-19 rules at a parliament-linked dinner has broken what trust the public still had in its leaders

Mon 24 Aug 2020 14.20 BST



126 399



s the weekend rolled around, members of the Irish government must have been

Asking themselves if things could get any worse. The answer was yes. The now infamous Clifden golf dinner, a parliament-linked golf society event held last week in apparent breach of public health guidelines, and attended by 80-plus people including current and former politicians, the minister for agriculture, Dara Calleary, the EU trade commissioner and former Fine Gael minister Phil Hogan, and a supreme court judge, has left the Irish public furious at a new coalition government that has lurched from one scandal to the next. At this point, there is a sense that public trust has been broken. The anger is palpable.

Since June, indoor events and gatherings in Ireland had been capped at 50 people. But last week, with three counties in the midlands in a localised lockdown, the government announced further restrictions, meaning indoor gatherings, apart from weddings, were now limited to six people. The Oireachtas Golf Society dinner - now known as "golfgate" - was held in a hotel in county Galway after that announcement.

The story was broken by Aoife-Grace Moore, a journalist at the Irish Examiner, and the shock was instant. The pandemic, although typified by awful losses, milestones missed and economic hardship, has also been marked by public solidarity and resilience. Compliance is high. There have been nearly 1.7m downloads of the contact tracing app, for example, 35% of the entire population. To have public efforts undermined in spirit and action by a group of politicians is unforgivable, and exemplifies "one rule for them, another rule for us".

Calleary, the Fianna Fáil agriculture minister, resigned - the second agriculture minister to do so since this new government was formed in late June. One of the Fine Gael senators who attended, Jerry Buttimer, resigned his position as deputy chairperson of the senate. Other sitting politicians lost the party whip. But there are major questions about Hogan's behaviour. Hogan will be a key figure for Ireland in negotiating a post-Brexit deal, and both the taoiseach, Micheál Martin, and his

deputy, Leo Varadkar, have asked him to consider his position. Over the weekend, it was reported that Hogan travelled to another golf tournament in the Netherlands before flying to Ireland, that he left quarantine to meet Varadkar (claiming this was essential and necessary work), that he travelled to an apartment in Kildare while en route to the golf event (travelling out of that county for unessential work is potentially in breach of the localised lockdown there), and that the taoiseach only learned about this Kildare pitstop because Hogan was stopped by police for using his mobile phone while driving. The drip-feed of explanations and revelations has fuelled the sense that if the Irish government is to draw a line under what began as a scandal and is now a fiasco, Hogan has to go. In what could prove to be a significant development, the European commission president, Ursula von der Leyen, has asked for a further clarification from Hogan since she received his report of events.

The government was already marked by chaos. In its first fortnight, the then minister for agriculture, Barry Cowen, was sacked over revelations around a drink-driving charge he received in 2016. Then there was confusion about the government issuing a "green list" of countries that didn't require quarantine on return, while simultaneously telling people not to travel. Following this, there was an outcry about pay rises for "super junior" ministers. Then, amid consternation among artists and the self-employed about the pandemic unemployment payment (PUP) - an emergency welfare payment to help those whose industries had shut down - being cut, it emerged that welfare officers and police were asking people in Dublin airport for their personal public service numbers, with a view to potentially cutting payments on the basis that they were travelling out of the country. Consternation, questions about data protection, and anger about the punitive aspect of these actions followed.

At any other moment in history, a series of self-made scandals would be pretty dire, but in the middle of a pandemic, there is outright fury that this government can't seem to get its act together. Social cohesion, solidarity, community spirit and empathy are national attributes that have been strengthened in recent years during an Irish social revolution centred around referendums that legalised marriage equality and abortion. Their grassroots, people-led movements politicised a generation, and imbued a sense of civic responsibility and active citizenship which has changed the country. They also gave birth to a sense of people power, and introduced people to the mechanisms of activism that were both cohesive and inspiring. Groups put their differences aside to join forces, and regular people put their shoulders to the wheel out of a sense of duty, hope and the desire to imagine a better country.

The behaviour of government is beginning to feel like the antithesis of this kind of politics. Amid the anger, there is profound dejection and disappointment. For most

people in Ireland, these government antics are just not good enough.

- Una Mullally is a columnist for the Irish Times, and editor of Repeal the 8th, an anthology of writing about reproductive rights in Ireland

Since you're here ...

... joining us from Ireland, we have a small favour to ask. Millions are flocking to the Guardian for open, independent, quality news every day, and readers in 180 countries around the world now support us financially.

We believe everyone deserves access to information that's grounded in science and truth, and analysis rooted in authority and integrity. That's why we made a different choice: to keep our reporting open for all readers, regardless of where they live or what they can afford to pay.

The Guardian has no shareholders or billionaire owner, meaning our journalism is free from bias and vested interests - this makes us different. Our editorial independence and autonomy allows us to provide fearless investigations and analysis of those with political and commercial power. We can give a voice to the oppressed and neglected, and help bring about a brighter, fairer future. Your support protects this.

Supporting us means investing in Guardian journalism for tomorrow and the years ahead. The more readers funding our work, the more questions we can ask, the deeper we can dig, and the greater the impact we can have. We're determined to provide reporting that helps each of us better understand the world, and take actions that challenge, unite, and inspire change.

Your support means we can keep our journalism open, so millions more have free access to the high-quality, trustworthy news they deserve. So we seek your support not simply to survive, but to grow our journalistic ambitions and sustain our model for open, independent reporting.

If there were ever a time to join us, and help accelerate our growth, it is now. You have the power to support us through these challenging economic times and enable real-world impact.

Every contribution, however big or small, makes a difference. **Support us today from as little as €1 - it only takes a minute. Thank you.**

Support the Guardian →

VISA



PayPal

Topics

Ireland/Opinion

Coronavirus outbreak / Europe / Fine Gael / Fianna Fail / comment



comments (399)

Sign in or create your Guardian account to join the discussion.

Most popular

World ► Europe US Americas Asia Australia Middle East Africa Inequality

News Opinion Sport Culture Lifestyle

Sign up for the Guardian Today email

All the day's headlines and highlights from the Guardian, direct to you every morning

Sign up

Contact us

Complaints & corrections

SecureDrop

Work for us

Privacy settings

All topics

All writers

Digital newspaper archive

Facebook

Twitter

[Privacy policy](#)

[Cookie policy](#)

[Terms & conditions](#)

[Help](#)

[Advertise with us](#)

[Search UK jobs](#)

[Discount Codes](#)

[Back to top](#) 

© 2020 Guardian News & Media Limited or its affiliated companies. All rights reserved. (modern)

Aoife Moore on #Golfgate: One night of barefaced arrogance the final straw for heartsick public

Many have labelled this week's scandal as an "error of judgement", which is the very least of it



f t w in e

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2020 - 23:34 PM

Pictured: A Dublin schoolteacher known as 'Kay', confronts Taoiseach Micheál Martin on Bridge Street in Skibbereen over the Government's handling of school reopenings. **Picture:** PA

Aoife Moore

There's an old saying in Irish politics: "Eaten bread is soon forgotten," but I'm willing to wager whatever bread they served in the Station Hotel on Wednesday night, might stick in the throat a bit longer.

Many have labelled this week's scandal as an "error of judgement", which is the very least of it.

Neither I, nor my colleague Paul Hosford had any real idea what we had started when we wrote the story of 81 of Ireland's "best and brightest" on Thursday. We, in a stark reflection of the country itself, and like thousands of others, have made our own sacrifices, foregoing our respective weddings in order to respect public health guidelines.

We spent hours poring over a story of how those who have ready access to the top table of Irish life, were able to forgo government guidelines and enjoy a luxury that was not afforded to us.

Many in receipt of a public wage or pension were able to sit down and laugh and eat together, to remember their friend, to celebrate their successes, just like everyone else would like to do.

A SWIFT AND FURIOUS BACKLASH

The backlash was swift and furious, and was expected. This sick, sore and tired government, still in its infancy, has been carried by the goodwill of the Irish people for weeks, and it appears one night of barefaced arrogance has been the final straw.

Good people often make bad decisions in the moment, but it's not this moment we should be worried about.

The wider implications of this fall-out could be devastating. We have seen how populations react when those in charge do not appear to be taking their own rules seriously. Our nearest neighbour has struggled to get a handle on their community transmission amidst a battle for public sentiment after Dominic Cummings took off to Barnard Castle to check his eyesight.

Across the Atlantic, the bodies of the dead are piling up in freezers because their leader, a stained tupperware lunchbox of a man, would not and could not take the pandemic seriously.

I don't believe there is a person alive in their lifetime where the mc fraught and the blame does not lie any House.

STATE-ORDERED LONELINESS

A delayed wedding is by no means the worst compared to what some of our team mates in the 'Green Jersey' have endured, and it is at the Government's peril that they continue to ignore this.

LATEST

Pádraig Harrington honoured by the R&A

11 minutes ago

Environmental Protection Agency calls for nationwide ban on burning of solid fuel

11 minutes ago

Police officer dies after being shot in south London police station

19 minutes ago

Man found guilty of murder of Irish woman in Australia in 1997

35 minutes ago

PODCASTS

Irish Examiner Sport - Dalo's Hurling S...	
Irish Examiner Sport - Dalo's Hurling Show: H...	
The Mick Clifford Podcast - SETH B...	4.2K
Irish Examiner Sport - The Double: ...	7.8K
Ask Audrey - Reggie wants to depo...	1.3K
Irish Examiner Sport - Dalo does 'The Double...	

Irish Examiner Podcasts
Latest Irish Examiner Podcasts
Cookie policy

Available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify



Suzanne Harrington
Lifestyle

Lunchtime News Wrap

A lunchtime summary of content highlights on the Irish Examiner website. Delivered at 1pm each day.

Sign up

Stay connected. Download our mobile a



Live News

ePaper

Revoiced Newsletter

Our Covid-free newsletter brings together some of the best bits from Irishexaminer.com, as chosen by our editor, direct to your inbox every Monday.

Sign up

FREE HOME DELIVERY SERVICE



Sign up today



Some of us have said our final goodbyes to loved ones through iPads and windows. Last breaths have been taken in the reflection of some Apple-branded glass, hands held by strangers in hazmat suits, with no final word of familial love in their ear.

We have worried about the elderly people we know and the elderly people we don't, and about how this phase of state-ordered loneliness will affect those without loved ones to call their own.

Children with additional needs have regressed so quickly that once-determined mothers have been reduced to tears on nightly news programmes trying to defend their guilt at needing a break, and desperation for their children's future.

We have lined roads and abandoned funerals, we have starved grandparents of embraces and filled ourselves with banana bread and notions that it "won't be too much longer now".

Delayed hugs, delayed kisses and parties and presents. Postponed funerals, and wakes and celebrations of life and love, all held in our new earth-bound purgatory we call the "new normal".

Good-hearted and hard-working people have spent years at the coal face trying to convince a jaded Irish public that there is good that can come from government.

The lack of young people and women in Irish political life is not an accident; it's a symptom of the cynicism that exists, the belief that those who walk the halls of power are in it for themselves, for the large pay packets for "doing nothing", and that they disregard real people and their real problems. And now, after all this, who can blame them?

MOST READ



Cork teen Aaron Hill stuns snooker legend Ronnie O'Sullivan in thriller



Cork and Waterford among counties on Covid alert as Level Three extended to Donegal



33 locations around Ireland exceed international air pollution limits



MORE IN THIS SECTION



Tech gap between Europe and China is a digital emergency



How the black vote became a political monolith



Elaine Loughlin: Time for talking is not over where our politicians are concerned

Revoiced Newsletter

Our Covid-free newsletter brings together some of the best bits from irishexaminer.com, as chosen by our editor, direct to your inbox every Monday.

Your Email Name



Thanks for disabling your ad blocker

Search

Opinion > Comment

Ireland's golfgate fury shows that months after Barnard Castle, elites still think they're the exception to lockdown rules

We locked down for each other, not for our leaders – which is a good thing, because otherwise their credibility would be shot



By Karl McDonald
August 25, 2020 4:19 pm



More than 80 people, including a cabinet minister, attended a parliamentary golf society in the west of Ireland last week, in spite of restrictions (Photo: Niall Carson/PA)

Imagine, if you will, a Dominic Cummings moment in which more than one eyesight-challenged politico and his family made the suspicious trip to Barnard Castle. Squeezed into the back of the family car were a cabinet minister, an array of current and former politicians, an august broadcaster, a senior judge, the EU trade commissioner and the Moroccan ambassador, for some

Great! Thanks for choosing the best browsing experience. You can change your privacy settings at any time from our Privacy Policy.

landscape or a country that felt its original coronavirus response compared well to Boris Johnson's version, and where indoor



Thanks for disabling your ad blocker

Search

Just days after the new Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, reimposed some stricter lockdown measures, it emerged that 81 members of the Oireachtas [parliamentary] Golf Society made their way to County Galway for an event to commemorate its 50th anniversary, and the death of a former member in 2018.

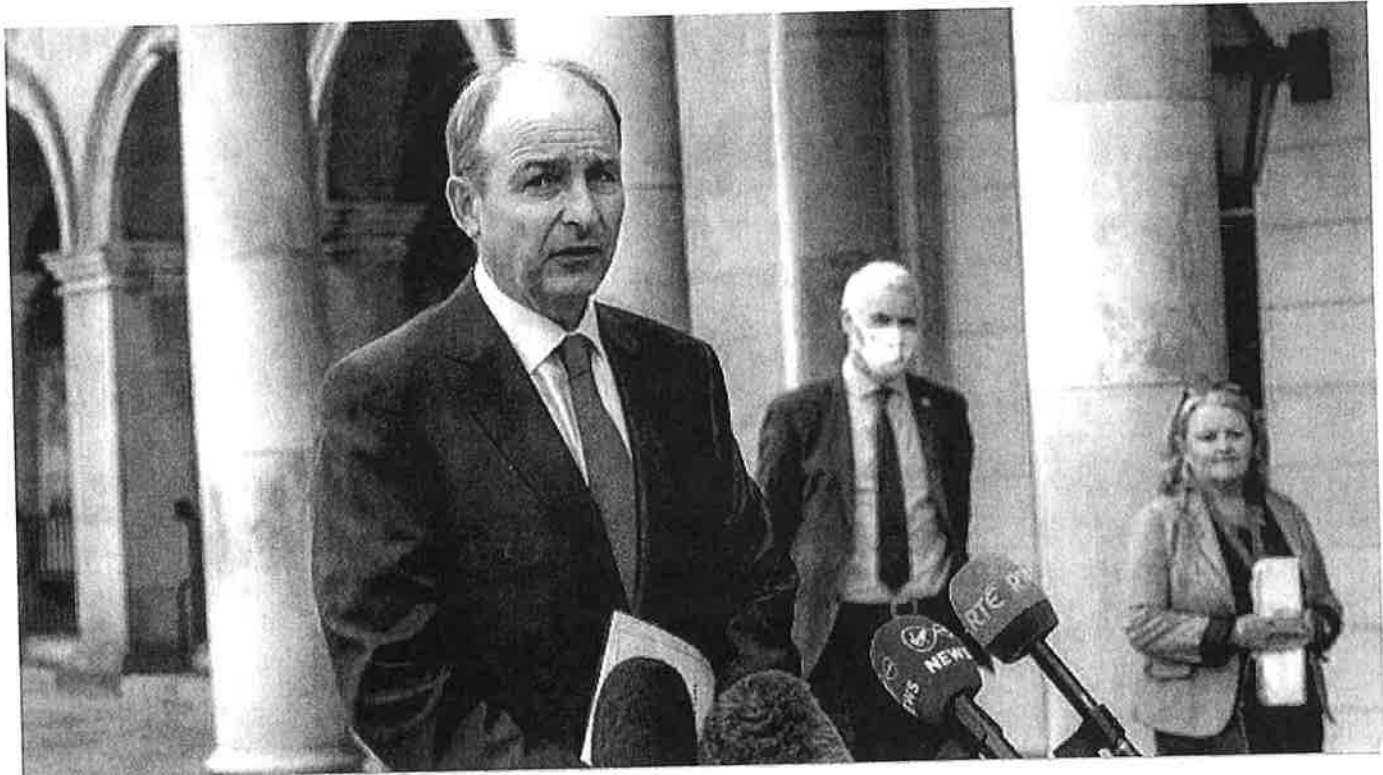
The i politics newsletter cut through the noise

Bang to rights

First reported by Aoife-Grace Moore and Paul Hosford of the *Irish Examiner*, the event was the definition of bang-to-rights. There is no one in Ireland who could confidently claim that they thought an 81-member society event in a hotel function room would fall under a loophole.

I know for a fact that pubs are still policing the six-person rule because, on a recent visit, I witnessed the barman descend immediately when a friend's partner arrived, making seven at our table. This is a country where pubs that don't sell food still haven't been allowed to open. Any ambiguity about post-golf functions in the minds of politicians was wishful thinking.

Advertisement



Great! Thanks for choosing the best browsing experience. You can change your privacy settings at any time from our Privacy Policy.



Thanks for disabling your ad blocker

Search

The response followed the beats of the Cummings story fairly closely. Firstly, when it broke, there was the excitement of a strong story, accompanied by fury at the presumption of society's political elite. Then came the quick conversations: is this a breach of the letter of the guidelines? Could it really be the case that a partly-open partition between two sections of hotel dining room floor provides the sort of technical get-out that Dominic Cummings tried with his eye test?

It didn't really matter though. Nothing they could have said would have made it seem okay in the eyes of the public. Ireland is a smaller country than the UK, and while fewer people had their lives touched by cases of coronavirus in the first wave, everyone has made some sacrifice, whether a cancelled wedding, or a painful lack of visits to vulnerable older relatives, or an emigrant child who cannot travel home, or simply a lost summer. It's been a rigid few months.

Hypocrisy and apologies

Anyone who ever asked themselves whether it's really a good idea to do what they're doing, down to the level of whether or not to get the bus or buy fresh milk, was confronted with a story of dozens of prominent people who failed to ask that question of themselves.

The apologies and explanations, when they came, were on a spectrum from immediate contrition (Dara Calleary, the Fianna Fáil-led government's second fallen agriculture minister in its months-old administration) to a position you could characterise as studied naivety (Phil Hogan, the EU trade commissioner, who it turns out is not directly sackable, despite losing the support of both the Taoiseach and his former party leader Leo Varadkar).

Phil Hogan, the EU trade commissioner, attended the event (Photo: AFP/Getty)

At the heart of the scandal is a unifying fact that applies way beyond Ireland: when we locked down, when we socially distanced, when we cancelled plans, we did it for each other. There are government rules, sure, but we followed the advice because of our responsibility to our communities. Very few people cancelled their birthday party because Boris Johnson asked them to – but plenty did so because of a sense of duty to other ordinary people.

Advertisement

The insult, then, is not just to the picturesque town of Clifden, Co Galway, where

Great! Thanks for choosing the best browsing experience. You can change your privacy settings at any time from our Privacy Policy.



Thanks for disabling your ad blocker

Search

All in it together

There has always been a suspicion that the political elite feel immune to their own "all in it together" rhetoric. When Conservative MPs in their dozens defended Dominic Cummings for doing what any good parent would have done, millions of good parents disagreed.

Read More

Dominic Cummings row harmed trust in coronavirus response and united the public in anger

In Ireland, a cabinet minister and 80 other notable individuals attending a golf society dinner in the middle of a lockdown makes the point almost too clearly. There is an establishment in Ireland made up of politicians, but also judges, and senior civil servants, and top journalists. Its proceedings take place at golf society dinners that are more important than the weddings and funerals of ordinary citizens.

The hypocrisy and self-regard may damage Ireland's social cohesion when it comes to the coronavirus response, but I doubt it. Ordinary people locked down for each other – and golfgate just reinforces the fact that if we looked purely to our leaders for a sense of how to live, we'd be in a much worse position now.

Covid-19 Ireland

Essentials

- News
- Sport
- Lifestyle
- Culture
- Opinion
- ibuy

Useful links

- Contact Us
- About
- Advertise
- Subscribe to i
- i competitions
- i newsletters
- i app
- Sitemap

Follow us on



Great! Thanks for choosing the best browsing experience. You can change your privacy settings at any time from our Privacy Policy.



Thanks for disabling your ad blocker

Search

[Privacy Policy](#)

Great! Thanks for choosing the best browsing experience. You can change your privacy settings at any time from our [Privacy Policy](#).



[About](#) [News](#) [What We Do](#) [Resources Centre](#)

[Members](#) | [Contact us](#) [FR](#)

Search

[Home](#) / [Publications](#) / **Two complainants complained about Madam Justice Southin of the British Columbia Court of Appeal in response to media reports**

January 1 2002

Two complainants complained about Madam Justice Southin of the British Columbia Court of Appeal in response to media reports



that she smoked in her office and accepted changes to her chambers to accommodate a ventilation system

CANADIAN JUDICIAL COUNCIL



20020011 - Two complainants complained about Madam Justice Southin of the British Columbia Court of Appeal in response to media reports that she smoked in her office and accepted changes to her chambers to accommodate a ventilation system. One complainant alleged that the judge's disregard for her own health and apparent lack of

interest in setting an example for others were an affront to the reputation of the judiciary and the high standards of behaviour expected of judges. The judge should apologize and reimburse the government for the ventilation system, the complainant stated. The second complainant, Vancouver lawyer Dugald Christie, alleged that by her actions Madam Justice Southin had brought the administration of justice into disrepute. In a second letter, Mr. Christie argued that Madam Justice Southin's dissenting reasons in a decision in *Reilly v. Lynn* were an "effrontery" to the Supreme Court of Canada. He also argued that when cases were argued before her by the provincial government or its Crown corporations, she would be beholden to the Attorney General for providing the changes in her chambers.

The complaints were dealt with by a Vice- Chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee, who advised that the judge's smoking and the installation of a ventilation system in her chambers at the direction of the B.C. Attorney General, "do not

fall within the ambit of judicial conduct reviewable under the Judges Act.” B.C.’s Occupational Health and Safety Regulations place the onus on the Attorney General to control exposure to workplace smoke by prohibitions, restrictions or “other equally effective means.” In this case, it was up to the Attorney General to decide how the province would comply with the regulation. The first complainant was advised that the Council had no jurisdiction or power to require reimbursement of the government or to ask the judge to apologize. Mr. Christie was advised that the Council had no jurisdiction to review whether a judicial decision was correct and that he had provided no evidence of bias or conflict of interest. Because Mr. Christie’s complaint was in the public domain, the Council issued a news release setting out the disposition of the file.



Home / News / [Judicial Council Closes File in Complaint Against BC Madam Justice Southin](#)

PRESS RELEASES

Ottawa, March 21 2003

Judicial Council Closes File in Complaint Against BC Madam Justice Southin

CANADIAN JUDICIAL COUNCIL



 [Print this page](#)

OTTAWA, March 21, 2003 – The Canadian Judicial Council has closed a complaint file involving Madam Justice Mary F. Southin of the British Columbia Court of Appeal for smoking in her office, having concluded that there are no grounds for a finding of judicial misconduct, the Council has advised the author of a formal complaint against the judge.

The judge's smoking and the installation of a ventilation system in her chambers that was done at the direction of the B.C. Attorney General, "do not fall within the ambit of judicial conduct reviewable under the Judges Act", Vancouver lawyer Dugald Christie was told in a letter from Jeannie Thomas, the Council's Executive Director. The complaint was dealt with by the Honourable Constance Glube, Chief Justice of Nova

Scotia and Vice-Chairperson of the Council's Judicial Conduct Committee.

Mr. Christie originally alleged that by continuing to smoke and by accepting changes to her chambers to accommodate a ventilation system, Madam Justice Southin had brought the administration of justice into disrepute. In a further letter of complaint, Mr. Christie argued that Madam Justice Southin's dissenting reasons in a recent decision in *Reilly v. Lynn* were an "effrontery" to the Supreme Court of Canada. He also argued that the judge's conduct will give rise to a reasonable apprehension of bias on her part when cases are argued before her by the provincial government or its Crown corporations, because she will be beholden to the Attorney General for providing the changes in her chambers.

Chief Justice Glube also rejected these allegations. She noted that the Council has no jurisdiction to review whether a judicial decision is correct or not, and that the assessment of judicial conduct is concerned with actual bias or actual conflict of interest, not a reasonable apprehension of bias. Mr. Christie was advised that he had provided no evidence of actual bias or actual conflict of interest.

On the issue of smoking, the response stated that B.C.'s Occupational Health and Safety Regulations place the onus on the Attorney General to control exposure to workplace smoke by prohibitions, restrictions or "other equally effective means". In this case, it was the Attorney General's decision as to how the province would comply with the regulation.

The Council's procedures for dealing with complaints about the conduct of federally appointed judges may be found on its Web site at <http://www.cjc-ccm.gc.ca/>.

Contact

this section to refer the matter for investigation, the Registrar shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, notify the complainant of that decision.

- (5) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee decides under *subsection (1)* to refer a matter for investigation, the Registrar shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, notify the judge whose conduct is being investigated thereof in writing and provide him or her with particulars of the alleged judicial misconduct concerned.

Referral of complaint for resolution by informal means or investigation

- 60.** (1) Whenever a complaint is determined to be admissible under *section 53* or *56*, the Judicial Conduct Committee shall either—
- (a) refer the complaint for resolution by informal means under *Chapter 4* if it is satisfied that it is appropriate to so do, or
 - (b) refer the complaint to a panel of inquiry appointed for that purpose under *section 64* for investigation.
- (2) Where a complaint relates to conduct in relation to proceedings that have not been finally determined, the Judicial Conduct Committee may, where it considers it appropriate to do so, adjourn any investigation of the complaint under this Part pending the final determination of the proceedings.
- (3) Whenever the Judicial Conduct Committee receives a report under *section 63(1)*, it shall consider the report and shall refer the complaint to a panel of inquiry appointed for that purpose under *section 64* for investigation.
- (4) Whenever the Judicial Conduct Committee receives a report under *section 63(4)*, it shall consider the report and may, where it considers it appropriate to so do, refer the complaint to a panel of inquiry appointed for that purpose under *section 64* for investigation.
- (5) The Registrar shall, as soon as practicable after the performance by the Judicial Conduct Committee of any function in relation to a complaint under the foregoing provisions of this section, notify the complainant and the judge concerned in writing thereof.

CHAPTER 4

Resolution of complaints by informal means

Referral of complaint for resolution by informal means

- 61.** (1) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee decides under *section 60(1)* to refer a complaint in respect of the judge concerned for resolution by informal means, it shall request in writing the designated judge or designated judges to undertake the resolution of the complaint by informal means in accordance with this Chapter.
- (2) The designated judge or designated judges may, upon receipt by him, her or them of a request under *subsection (1)*, appoint not more than 3 judges of the court of which the judge concerned is a judge to undertake the resolution by informal means in

accordance with this Chapter of the complaint concerned on behalf of that designated judge or those designated judges, and the judge or judges so appointed shall undertake the resolution by informal means of that complaint accordingly.

- (3) References in this Chapter (other than in this section) to the designated judge or designated judges shall, in the case of a complaint in respect of which an appointment or appointments is or are made under *subsection (2)*, be construed as references to the judge or judges appointed under that subsection.

Resolution of complaints by informal means

- 62.** (1) No attempt shall be made to resolve a complaint by informal means pursuant to this Chapter without the consent of the complainant and the judge concerned.
- (2) A consent given by the judge concerned for the resolution of the complaint concerned by informal means shall not be taken as an admission of any allegation made in that complaint against that judge.
- (3) Subject to *section 63*, an answer given or statement made, in the course of attempting to resolve a complaint pursuant to this Chapter, by the complainant or the judge concerned shall not—
- (a) be communicated to any person other than the persons participating in the attempt to resolve the complaint, or
 - (b) be admissible in any disciplinary, civil or criminal proceedings.
- (4) The resolution of a complaint by informal means pursuant to this Chapter shall not include the payment of any financial compensation.

Report to Judicial Conduct Committee from designated judge or designated judges

- 63.** (1) If the designated judge or designated judges are of opinion that a complaint referred to him, her or them under *section 60(1)(a)* is not suitable for resolution by informal means, he, she or they shall prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing specifying the reasons for that opinion.
- (2) The designated judge or designated judges shall, where he, she or they are satisfied that a complaint referred to him, her or them under *section 60(1)(a)* has been resolved by informal means prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing specifying particulars of the resolution of the complaint, and the Judicial Conduct Committee shall take note of the report and take no further action in relation to the complaint.
- (3) Following receipt by the Judicial Conduct Committee of a report under *subsection (2)*, the Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned in writing that in view of the resolution of the complaint concerned pursuant to this Chapter no further action will be taken by the Judicial Conduct Committee in relation to that complaint.
- (4) The designated judge or designated judges shall, where a complaint referred to him, her or them under *section 60(1)(a)* has not been resolved by informal means, prepare,

and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing specifying the following:

- (a) particulars of the complaint;
- (b) the reasons why, in the opinion of the designated judge or designated judges, the complaint was not resolved by informal means.

CHAPTER 5

Investigation of complaints

Referral of complaint by Judicial Conduct Committee to panel of inquiry

64. (1) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, where it decides to refer a complaint to a panel of inquiry under *subsection (1)(b), (3) or (4) of section 60*, appoint a panel of inquiry to investigate the complaint.
- (2) A notification under *subsection (5) of section 60* (other than a notification of a decision under *subsection (1)(a) or (2) of that section*) to the judge concerned shall inform him or her—
- (a) of the referral of a complaint to a panel of inquiry for investigation,
 - (b) of the particulars of the complaint, including any evidence in support of the complaint, and
 - (c) that if the panel of inquiry conducts a hearing in connection with the investigation of the complaint, he or she is entitled—
 - (i) either in person or through his or her representative to attend and defend himself or herself at the hearing, and
 - (ii) to request—
 - (I) where no direction is given under *section 68(5)*, that some or all of the hearing be conducted otherwise than in public, or
 - (II) where a direction is given under *section 68(5)*, the effect of which is that part of the hearing be conducted in public, that such part be conducted otherwise than in public.
- (3) A notification under *subsection (5) of section 60* (other than a notification of a decision under *subsection (1)(a) or (2) of that subsection*) to the complainant shall inform him or her that if the panel of inquiry conducts a hearing in connection with the investigation of the complaint he or she is entitled to request—
- (a) where no direction is given under *section 68(5)*, that some or all of the hearing be conducted otherwise than in public, or
 - (b) where a direction is given under *section 68(5)*, the effect of which is that part of the hearing be conducted in public, that such part be conducted otherwise than in public.

- (4) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall not accede to a request under *subsection (2)(c)(ii)* or (3) in the absence of reasonable and sufficient cause.

Recommendations for nomination of lay members of panels of inquiry

65. (1) The Government shall request the Public Appointments Service to undertake a selection process for the purpose of identifying and recommending to the Government persons who it is satisfied are suitable for appointment to be lay members of panels of inquiry and, accordingly, the Public Appointments Service shall comply with that request and, following the conduct of such a selection process, make a recommendation to the Government in respect of persons who participated in such process in relation to whom it is so satisfied.
- (2) Subject to *subsection (3)* and *section 66(3)*, the Minister shall agree with the Public Appointments Service the selection criteria and procedures that are to apply to a selection process under this section.
- (3) For the purposes of making a recommendation under this section, the Public Appointments Service shall have regard to the desirability that the lay members of a panel of inquiry will, among them, possess knowledge of, and experience in, as many as possible of the following matters:
- (a) the maintenance of standards in professions regulated by a statutory or other body;
 - (b) dealing with complaints made against members of such professions;
 - (c) mediation or other mechanisms for alternative dispute resolution;
 - (d) the administration of justice;
 - (e) the management and provision of services to members of the public.
- (4) Subject to *subsection (3)*, the Public Appointments Service shall not make a recommendation under this section in respect of a person unless it is satisfied that the person possesses such relevant experience, qualifications, training or expertise as is appropriate having regard to the functions of a panel of inquiry as would render him or her suitable for appointment to be a lay member of a panel of inquiry.
- (5) The Public Appointments Service shall provide the Government with particulars of the experience, qualifications, training and expertise of each person in respect of whom it makes a recommendation under this section.

Nomination for appointment of lay members of panels of inquiry

66. (1) From time to time, the Government shall, from among persons in respect of whom a recommendation has been made under *section 65*, nominate not fewer than 7 persons and not more than 12 persons for appointment by the Judicial Conduct Committee under *section 67(1)(b)* to be lay members of panels of inquiry.

- (2) The Government shall, insofar as practicable and having regard to relevant experience, endeavour to ensure that not fewer than 40 per cent of persons nominated under *subsection (1)* are women.
- (3) A person shall not be eligible to be nominated under *subsection (1)*, or appointed under *section 67*, to be a lay member of a panel of inquiry—
- (a) if the person is a member of either House of the Oireachtas, the European Parliament or a local authority,
 - (b) if, in the case of a person who was a member of either House of the Oireachtas, the European Parliament or a local authority and who has ceased to be such a member, a period of 5 years has not yet elapsed since he or she was a member of either such House, such Parliament or a local authority,
 - (c) if the person is a judge or a former judge,
 - (d) if the person is a judge or a former judge of—
 - (i) the General Court of the European Union,
 - (ii) the Court of Justice of the European Union,
 - (iii) the European Court of Human Rights,
 - (iv) the International Court of Justice,
 - (v) the International Criminal Court, or
 - (vi) an international tribunal,
 - (e) if the person is an Advocate-General or a former Advocate-General of the Court of Justice of the European Union,
 - (f) if the person is a lay member of the Judicial Conduct Committee,
 - (g) if the person is a practising barrister or solicitor,
 - (h) if, in the case of a person who was a practising barrister or solicitor and who has ceased to be a practising barrister or practising solicitor, a period of 5 years has not elapsed since he or she last practised as a barrister or solicitor, or
 - (i) if the person is a civil servant.
- (4) If a lay member of a panel of inquiry—
- (a) is nominated to be a member of Seanad Éireann,
 - (b) is elected to be a member of either House of the Oireachtas or to be a member of the European Parliament,
 - (c) is regarded pursuant to Part XIII of the Second Schedule to the European Parliament Elections Act 1997 as having been elected to be a member of the European Parliament,
 - (d) is elected or co-opted to be a member of a local authority,
 - (e) is appointed to be a judge of—

- (i) the General Court of the European Union,
 - (ii) the Court of Justice of the European Union,
 - (iii) the European Court of Human Rights,
 - (iv) the International Court of Justice,
 - (v) the International Criminal Court, or
 - (vi) an international tribunal,
- (f) is appointed to be an Advocate-General of the Court of Justice of the European Union,
- (g) is appointed to be a member of the Judicial Conduct Committee,
- (h) commences practice as a barrister or solicitor, or
- (i) becomes a civil servant,
- he or she shall thereupon cease to be a lay member of the panel of inquiry.
- (5) A person nominated under *subsection (1)* may, by notice in writing given or sent to the chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee, indicate that he or she no longer wishes to be considered for appointment by that Committee under *section 67(1)(b)* to a panel of inquiry and, upon receipt of that notice by the chairperson of that Committee, the nomination under *subsection (1)* in respect of that person shall cease to have effect.
- (6) The chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee shall inform the Minister of any notice received by him or her under *subsection (5)*.

Appointment of members of panel of inquiry

67. (1) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall appoint 3 persons to be members of a panel of inquiry for the purposes of this Chapter, namely—
- (a) two judges (other than an *ex officio* member of the Judicial Conduct Committee or an elected member of the Judicial Conduct Committee), one of whom shall be a judge of the court of which the judge concerned is a judge and the other of whom shall be a judge of another court, and
 - (b) one lay member nominated under *section 66*.
- (2) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall appoint one member of a panel of inquiry appointed under *subsection (1)* to be its chairperson.
- (3) For the purposes of *subsection (1)(a)*, where the judge concerned whose conduct is being investigated is—
- (a) the President of the Court of Appeal, he or she shall be considered to be a judge of the Supreme Court,
 - (b) the President of the High Court, he or she shall be considered to be a judge of the Court of Appeal,

- (c) the President of the Circuit Court, he or she shall be considered to be a judge of the High Court, or
 - (d) the President of the District Court, he or she shall be considered to be a judge of the Circuit Court.
- (4) A member of a panel of inquiry appointed under *subsection (1)* may resign from the panel of inquiry by notice in writing given or sent to the chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee and the resignation shall take effect on the day on which the chairperson of the Committee receives the notice, but such resignation shall not of itself prevent his or her appointment to, or continued membership of, another panel of inquiry.
- (5) (a) Where a member of a panel of inquiry appointed under *subsection (1)(a)* was, at the time of his or her appointment to be such a member, a judge of the court of which the judge concerned is a judge and he or she subsequently ceases to be a judge of that court, he or she shall thereupon cease to be a member of the panel of inquiry.
- (b) Where a member of a panel of inquiry appointed under *subsection (1)(a)* ceases to be a judge, he or she shall thereupon cease to be a member of the panel of inquiry.
- (6) If a member of a panel of inquiry resigns or otherwise ceases to be a member of a panel of inquiry, the Judicial Conduct Committee may—
- (a) if the member was a judge of the court of which the judge concerned is a judge, appoint a judge of that court,
 - (b) if the member was a judge of a court other than the court of which the judge concerned is a judge, appoint a judge of a court other than the latter court but who may be a judge of a court other than the former court, or
 - (c) if the member was a lay member of the panel of inquiry, appoint a person standing nominated for the time being under *section 66*,
- to replace the member of the panel of inquiry who resigned or otherwise ceased to be a member thereof.
- (7) A member of the staff of the Council (other than the Registrar), nominated by the chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee, shall act as registrar to a panel of inquiry (in this Act referred to as “registrar to a panel of inquiry”).

Conduct of investigation

68. (1) A panel of inquiry shall, in accordance with this section, investigate a complaint referred to it under *section 60*.
- (2) For the purposes of the investigation of a complaint under this section, a panel of inquiry may seek such information or documents relating to the complaint as it considers appropriate.

- (3) A panel of inquiry may conduct a hearing in connection with its investigation of a complaint.
- (4) The registrar to a panel of inquiry shall notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing of the date, time and place of a hearing under *subsection (3)* in sufficient time for the judge concerned and the complainant to prepare for the hearing.
- (5) A hearing of a complaint before a panel of inquiry shall be conducted in public unless the Judicial Conduct Committee directs that in order to safeguard the administration of justice the hearing should be conducted in whole or in part otherwise than in public.
- (6) At a hearing of a complaint before a panel of inquiry—
 - (a) the registrar to the panel of inquiry shall present particulars of the complaint,
 - (b) the testimony of witnesses attending the hearing shall be given on oath, and
 - (c) there shall be a right to cross-examine witnesses and call evidence in defence and reply.
- (7) Any member of a panel of inquiry investigating a complaint, or the registrar to the panel of inquiry, may administer an oath for the purposes of the investigation of the complaint.

Powers and protections relating to witnesses and evidence

- 69.** (1) For the purposes of the investigation of a complaint under this Chapter, a panel of inquiry shall have all the powers, rights and privileges that are vested in the High Court or a judge thereof on the hearing of an action and that relate to—
- (a) enforcing the attendance of witnesses,
 - (b) examining witnesses on oath or otherwise, and
 - (c) compelling the production (including discovery) of records, including a record of proceedings in court or a transcript of such a record.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of *subsection (1)*, a summons issued on behalf of a panel of inquiry by the chairperson of the panel of inquiry or by such other member of the panel of inquiry as is authorised by the panel of inquiry for that purpose may be substituted for and is the equivalent of any formal process capable of being issued in an action for enforcing the attendance of witnesses or compelling the production of documents.
- (3) Subject to any procedures in force and to the necessity of observing fair procedures, a panel of inquiry may receive—
- (a) oral evidence given before the panel of inquiry,
 - (b) evidence by affidavit, or
 - (c) evidence in such manner (including by means of a live video link, a video recording, a sound recording or any other mode of transmission) as is authorised by procedures specified under *section 52*.

- (4) A person shall be guilty of an offence if he or she—
- (a) fails without reasonable excuse to comply with a summons issued by a panel of inquiry or to attend before the panel of inquiry at the time and place specified in the summons,
 - (b) while attending as a witness before a panel of inquiry refuses to—
 - (i) take an oath lawfully required by the panel of inquiry to be taken,
 - (ii) produce any document in the person’s power or control that the person is lawfully required by the panel of inquiry to produce, or
 - (iii) answer any question that the person is lawfully required by the panel of inquiry to answer,
 - (c) while attending before a panel of inquiry does anything that, if the panel of inquiry were a court of law having power to punish for contempt, would be contempt of court, or
 - (d) gives evidence before a panel of inquiry that if it had been given by the person in proceedings before a court would have constituted the offence of perjury.
- (5) A person guilty of an offence under *paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (4)* shall be liable on summary conviction to a class A fine.
- (6) A person guilty of an offence under *subsection (4)(d)* shall be liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to such fine or such term of imprisonment as he or she would be liable to if he or she were convicted summarily of the offence of perjury or both, or
 - (b) on conviction on indictment, to such fine or such term of imprisonment as he or she would be liable to if he or she were convicted on indictment of the offence of perjury or both.
- (7) In this section—
- “record of proceedings in court” means a contemporaneous record of proceedings in court made, in accordance with rules of court, by any means, including any sound or other recording capable of being reproduced in legible, audible or visual form;
- “transcript”, in relation to a record of proceedings in court, means a transcript of the record of such proceedings that is made by a person appointed by the Courts Service for that purpose in accordance with rules of court.

Failure or refusal by complainant to cooperate with panel of inquiry

- 70.** (1) Where, at any time during the course of an investigation, a panel of inquiry investigating a complaint under this Chapter, considers that the complainant has failed or refused to make reasonable efforts to cooperate with the investigation, the panel of inquiry shall prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report of such failure or refusal to cooperate and may suspend its investigation pending receipt of a direction from the Judicial Conduct Committee under *subsection (2)*.

- (2) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, after considering a report received by it under *subsection (1)*, give a direction to the panel of inquiry to—
 - (a) proceed with the investigation to which the report relates, or
 - (b) discontinue that investigation.
- (3) If the Judicial Conduct Committee directs a panel of inquiry under *subsection (2)* to discontinue the investigation of a complaint—
 - (a) the complaint shall be deemed to have been withdrawn by the complainant and no further action shall be taken in relation thereto, and
 - (b) the Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned thereof in writing.

Failure or refusal by judge concerned to cooperate with panel of inquiry

- 71.** (1) Where the judge concerned fails or refuses without reasonable excuse to cooperate with an investigation of a complaint under this Chapter, the panel of inquiry may, if it considers it appropriate in all the circumstances, decide to discontinue the investigation.
- (2) If an investigation is discontinued under *subsection (1)*, the panel of inquiry shall prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing setting out the circumstances of the failure or refusal of the judge concerned to cooperate and—
 - (a) shall recommend the issuing of a reprimand to the judge concerned in respect of his or her failure or refusal to cooperate, and
 - (b) may make such recommendations as the panel of inquiry considers necessary for the purposes of safeguarding the administration of justice.
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of *subsection (2)*—
 - (a) a recommendation under *paragraph (a)* of that subsection shall provide for one or more of the following:
 - (i) the issuing of advice to the judge concerned;
 - (ii) the making of a recommendation to the judge concerned as to a course of action to be pursued by that judge, including his or her attendance at a specified type of course or training;
 - (iii) the issuing of an admonishment to the judge concerned,and
 - (b) a recommendation under *paragraph (b)* of that subsection may include a recommendation to which *section 76(6)* applies.
- (4) *Sections 77 and 78* shall, with any necessary modifications, apply to a report of a panel of inquiry under *subsection (2)* as they apply to an interim report or a final report of a panel of inquiry referred to in those sections.

- (5) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall consider the report received from the panel of inquiry under *subsection (2)* and shall make such determination in relation to the investigation of the complaint concerned as it considers appropriate and, in doing so, may accept, with or without modification, or reject any recommendation contained in that report.
- (6) The Registrar shall, as soon as practicable after the Judicial Conduct Committee makes a determination under *subsection (5)*, notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing of—
 - (a) the determination of the Judicial Conduct Committee, and
 - (b) the reasons therefor.

Matter before panel of inquiry concerning health of judge

72. (1) Where during the course of an investigation by a panel of inquiry under this Chapter, the panel of inquiry forms the view that the conduct that is the subject of the complaint under investigation may be related to the health (whether physical or mental) of the judge concerned, the panel of inquiry shall, having given the judge concerned an opportunity to address the matter, prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing stating that view and the reasons therefor.
- (2) Where the judge concerned informs the panel of inquiry that he or she has taken, or is taking, steps to address the matter related to his or her health referred to in *subsection (1)*, the panel of inquiry shall specify those steps in its report under that subsection.
 - (3) The Judicial Conduct Committee, upon receiving a report under *subsection (1)*, shall as soon as practicable thereafter—
 - (a) where the judge concerned is an ordinary judge of the Supreme Court, submit the report to the Chief Justice,
 - (b) where the judge concerned is an ordinary judge of the Court of Appeal, the High Court or the Circuit Court or a specialist judge of the Circuit Court or a judge of the District Court other than the President of that Court, submit the report to the President of the Court of which the judge concerned is a judge,
 - (c) where the judge concerned is the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court or the President of the District Court, submit the report to the Chief Justice, or
 - (d) where the judge concerned is the Chief Justice, submit the report to the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court and the President of the District Court.
 - (4) In the circumstances referred to in *subsection (2)*, the investigation of the complaint concerned shall be discontinued and the Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned thereof in writing.
 - (5) Where a panel of inquiry makes a report under *subsection (1)* and the circumstances referred to in *subsection (2)* do not apply, it shall adjourn the investigation of the

complaint concerned and the registrar to the panel of inquiry shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned in writing of the adjournment.

- (6) Other than in the circumstances referred to in *subsection (2)*, where the Chief Justice, the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court or the President of the District Court receives a report under *subsection (3)*, he, she or they, as the case may be, may—
- (a) recommend to the judge concerned that—
- (i) he or she seek medical or other specified assistance, or
- (ii) take such other steps as the judge or judges who received the report consider appropriate,
- and
- (b) prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in relation to the making of the recommendation under *paragraph (a)*.
- (7) If a judge to whom a recommendation is made under *subsection (6)(a)* complies with the recommendation, the investigation of the complaint concerned shall be discontinued and the Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned thereof in writing.
- (8) If a judge to whom a recommendation is made under *subsection (6)(a)* does not comply with the recommendation, the judge or judges who made the recommendation shall prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in relation to the judge's not complying with that recommendation.
- (9) The Judicial Conduct Committee may, upon receiving a report under *subsection (8)*, direct the panel of inquiry to continue the investigation of the complaint concerned.
- (10) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee gives a direction under *subsection (9)*, the Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned thereof in writing.

If judge concerned consents to reprimand by Judicial Conduct Committee before conclusion of investigation

73. (1) Where, before or during an investigation of a complaint by a panel of inquiry under this Chapter, the judge concerned informs the panel of inquiry that, in relation to the complaint, he or she consents to the issuing of a reprimand to him or her, the panel of inquiry may, if it considers it appropriate having regard to the nature, gravity and circumstances of the complaint and the need to safeguard the administration of justice—
- (a) adjourn the investigation of the complaint in accordance with *section 75*, and
- (b) prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in relation to the complaint.
- (2) *Section 76* shall, notwithstanding the fact that an investigation of a complaint to which this section applies has not concluded, apply in relation to a report referred to in *subsection (1)(b)* with any necessary modifications.

Withdrawal of complaint while it is being investigated by panel of inquiry

74. (1) Where a complaint is withdrawn by the complainant during the course of an investigation under this Chapter, the panel of inquiry appointed to conduct the investigation may, with the consent of the Judicial Conduct Committee, either—
- (a) decide that no further action should be taken in relation to the complaint, or
 - (b) decide to proceed with the investigation as if the complaint had not been withdrawn.
- (2) Where a panel of inquiry makes a decision under *subsection (1)(b)*, the panel of inquiry shall continue with the investigation of the complaint concerned as if that complaint had not been withdrawn and that investigation shall be deemed to have been initiated under *section 59* and treated for all purposes as having been so initiated.
- (3) The Registrar shall notify the complainant and the judge concerned in writing of a decision under *subsection (1)* as soon as practicable after the making of the decision.

Adjournment of investigation of complaint by panel of inquiry

75. (1) A panel of inquiry may adjourn an investigation of a complaint under this Chapter at any time during the course of the investigation if it appears to the panel of inquiry to be appropriate to so do.
- (2) Where a panel of inquiry adjourns an investigation of a complaint under *subsection (1)*, it may—
- (a) resume the investigation at any time, or
 - (b) prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, an interim report in writing specifying the reasons for the adjournment of the investigation.
- (3) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, as soon as practicable after receiving an interim report under *subsection (2)(b)*, consider the interim report and give a direction in writing to the panel of inquiry requiring it to—
- (a) resume the investigation of the complaint concerned, or
 - (b) discontinue that investigation.
- (4) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee gives a direction under *subsection (3)(b)* to the panel of inquiry requiring it to discontinue the investigation of the complaint concerned under this Chapter, the Registrar shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing of—
- (a) that direction, and
 - (b) the reasons therefor.

Report of panel of inquiry submitted to Judicial Conduct Committee

76. (1) A panel of inquiry shall, upon its completing an investigation of a complaint under this Chapter, prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing of the investigation.

- (2) A report of a panel of inquiry under *subsection (1)* shall specify—
- (a) particulars of the complaint,
 - (b) the evidence (if any) in relation to the complaint presented to the panel of inquiry, and
 - (c) the findings of the panel of inquiry in relation to the complaint.
- (3) Where a panel of inquiry finds that an allegation in a complaint has been proved, the report of the panel of inquiry under *subsection (1)* shall include the reasons for that finding and—
- (a) such recommendations as the panel of inquiry considers appropriate for reprimanding the judge concerned, and
 - (b) such recommendations (if any) as the panel of inquiry considers necessary for the purposes of safeguarding the administration of justice.
- (4) Where a panel of inquiry finds that an allegation in a complaint has not been proved, the report of the panel of inquiry under *subsection (1)* shall include the reasons for that finding.
- (5) Without prejudice to the generality of *subsections (2) and (3)*, a recommendation under *subsection (3)(a)* shall provide for any one or more of the following:
- (a) the issuing of advice to the judge concerned;
 - (b) the making of a recommendation that the judge concerned pursue a specified course of action, including attending a course or training of a specified type;
 - (c) the issuing of an admonishment to the judge concerned.
- (6) Without prejudice to the generality of *subsections (2) and (3)*, a recommendation under *subsection (3)(b)*—
- (a) may be made to—
 - (i) the Chief Justice, where the judge concerned is an ordinary judge of the Supreme Court, the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court or the President of the District Court,
 - (ii) the President of the Court of Appeal, the President of the High Court, the President of the Circuit Court and the President of the District Court, where the judge concerned is the Chief Justice, or
 - (iii) the President of the court of which the judge concerned is a judge, in the case of a judge other than a judge to whom *subparagraph (i) or (ii)* applies,
 - (b) may recommend that changes be made to court procedures, practice directions, distribution of work or may also concern related matters,
- or both.

Draft report to be sent to complainant and judge concerned

77. (1) The registrar to a panel of inquiry shall, before the panel of inquiry submits an interim report or a final report to the Judicial Conduct Committee in relation to an investigation of a complaint under this Chapter, send a draft of the report to—
- (a) the judge concerned, and
 - (b) the complainant.
- (2) The draft of a report referred to in *subsection (1)* shall be accompanied by a notice from the panel of inquiry specifying the period within which submissions or requests may be made to the panel of inquiry under *section 78(1)*.

Amendment of draft report

78. (1) A complainant or the judge concerned who receives a draft report from the registrar to a panel of inquiry under *section 77* and who believes that the panel of inquiry has not observed fair procedures in relation to him or her may, within the period specified in a notice under that section, submit to the registrar to the panel of inquiry a statement in writing setting out the reasons for his or her belief and a request to the panel of inquiry to review the draft report having regard to the statement.
- (2) Where a panel of inquiry does not receive a statement under *subsection (1)* within the period specified in the notice under *section 77*, it shall, as soon as practicable after the expiration of that period, submit its report to the Judicial Conduct Committee.
- (3) Where a panel of inquiry receives a statement under *subsection (1)*, it may, after considering the statement and reviewing the draft report—
- (a) amend the draft report to take account of the statement received, or
 - (b) decline to make any amendments to the draft report.
- (4) A statement received by a panel of inquiry under *subsection (1)* shall be attached to the report submitted to the Judicial Conduct Committee under *section 76*.
- (5) If a draft report is not amended, or is only partially amended, to take account of a statement received under *subsection (1)*, the reasons for that shall be included in the report submitted to the Judicial Conduct Committee under *section 76*.

Determination of complaint by Judicial Conduct Committee

79. (1) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, as soon as practicable after receiving a report under *section 76* from a panel of inquiry in relation to a complaint that was the subject of an investigation, notify the complainant and the judge concerned in writing that he or she may make submissions, in writing or orally, to the Committee within such period as is specified in the notification in relation to the recommendations that may be included in the report under *subsection (3)* of that section.
- (2) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the expiration of the period specified in a notification under *subsection (1)*—
- (a) consider—

- (i) the report received from the panel of inquiry under *section 76*, and
 - (ii) any submissions made by the complainant or the judge concerned pursuant to a notification under *subsection (1)*,
- and
- (b) make such determination of the complaint concerned as it considers appropriate, including whether or not the complaint has been substantiated.
- (3) The Judicial Conduct Committee may, for the purposes of—
- (a) assisting it in making a decision under *subsection (2)*, or
 - (b) observing fair procedures,
- conduct a hearing in relation to a complaint that has been the subject of an investigation to which a report under *section 76* relates if, having regard to all the circumstances, it considers it appropriate to do so.
- (4) The Registrar shall notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing of the date, time and place of a hearing under *subsection (3)* in sufficient time for the judge concerned and the complainant to prepare for the hearing.
- (5) *Subsections (5) to (7) of section 68* shall apply to a hearing under *subsection (3)* as they apply to a hearing of a complaint under that section with the following and any other necessary modifications:
- (a) references to a panel of inquiry shall be construed as references to the Judicial Conduct Committee;
 - (b) references to the registrar to the panel of inquiry shall be construed as references to the Registrar.
- (6) *Section 69* shall apply for the purposes of a hearing under *subsection (3)* as it applies to the investigation of a complaint under this Chapter by a panel of inquiry subject to the modification that references in that section to a panel of inquiry shall be construed as references to the Judicial Conduct Committee.
- (7) A determination under *subsection (2)(b)*—
- (a) shall be in writing,
 - (b) shall give the reasons for the determination, and
 - (c) may include any one or more of the matters referred to in *subsection (5) or (6) of section 76*.
- (8) In considering the report of a panel of inquiry and issuing a determination under *subsection (2)*, the Judicial Conduct Committee may accept, with or without modification, or reject any recommendation contained in the report submitted by the panel of inquiry to the Judicial Conduct Committee under *section 76*.
- (9) Where a determination made by the Judicial Conduct Committee under *subsection (2)* requires no action to be taken by the judge concerned or is to the effect that the

complaint has not been substantiated, the determination shall specify that the investigation of the complaint is concluded.

- (10) Where a determination made by the Judicial Conduct Committee under *subsection (2)* requires the judge concerned to take any action, the Judicial Conduct Committee may—
- (a) require the judge concerned to report to the Judicial Conduct Committee in the manner specified by that Committee regarding his or her compliance with the requirement, and
 - (b) adjourn the matter for such period as the Committee considers appropriate and at the end of that period ascertain whether or not the determination has been complied with by the judge concerned.
- (11) The Registrar shall, as soon as practicable after the Judicial Conduct Committee makes a determination under *subsection (2)*, notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing of—
- (a) the determination of the Judicial Conduct Committee,
 - (b) the reasons therefor, and
 - (c) where a matter has been adjourned under *subsection (10)(b)*, the manner in which the judge is to report to the Judicial Conduct Committee and the period within which he or she shall do so.
- (12) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee receives a report from the judge concerned under *subsection (10)(a)* and is of opinion that the determination has been complied with, it shall notify the judge concerned and the complainant in writing that the investigation of the complaint is concluded.
- (13) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee—
- (a) does not receive a report from the judge concerned under *subsection (10)(a)* within the period specified by the Judicial Conduct Committee under *subsection (11)(c)*, or
 - (b) receives a report from the judge concerned under *subsection (10)(a)* but is not satisfied that the determination has been complied with,
- the Committee may take such further action as it considers appropriate in all the circumstances, including the making under *section 80* of a referral within the meaning of that section to the Minister in relation to the judge concerned.
- (14) Where a hearing relating to the investigation of a complaint has been held in public, the Judicial Conduct Committee shall publish, or cause to be published, a determination under *subsection (2)*.
- (15) Where a hearing relating to the investigation of a complaint has been held in whole or in part otherwise than in public, the Judicial Conduct Committee may, for the purposes of safeguarding the administration of justice, decide to publish, or cause to be published, a determination under *subsection (2)* taking account of the extent to

which the identities of the judge concerned and of the complainant or either of them have already been made public.

Referral by Judicial Conduct Committee to Minister of matter relating to conduct or capacity of judge for Article 35.4 purposes

- 80.** (1) (a) In this section an “Article 35.4.1° motion”, in relation to a judge, means a motion that is proposed in either House of the Oireachtas pursuant to the rules and standing orders for the time being in force of that House for the purpose of seeking a resolution of that House under subsection 1° of section 4 of Article 35 of the Constitution calling for the removal from office of the judge for stated misbehaviour or incapacity within the meaning of that subsection.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt references in this section to an Article 35.4.1° motion may—
- (i) by virtue of section 39 of the Courts of Justice Act 1924, relate to a judge of the Circuit Court, and
- (ii) by virtue of section 20 of the Courts of Justice (District Court) Act 1946, relate to a judge of the District Court.
- (2) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee determines in accordance with this section that a matter relating to the conduct or capacity of a judge (whether or not arising from a complaint) requires the referral of the matter to the Minister under this section (in this section referred to as a “referral”), the Committee shall make a referral in relation to the judge.
- (3) Where at any time during the course of an investigation by a panel of inquiry of—
- (a) a complaint under this Part, or
- (b) a matter relating to the conduct of a judge under *section 59*,
- the panel of inquiry forms the opinion that a matter disclosed by the investigation relating to the conduct or capacity of the judge concerned is of such gravity as would justify a referral by the Judicial Conduct Committee in relation to that judge, the panel of inquiry shall prepare, and submit to the Judicial Conduct Committee, a report in writing in relation to the matter under this subsection.
- (4) Where the Judicial Conduct Committee makes a referral in relation to a judge, the Minister shall, as soon as practicable thereafter, propose an Article 35.4.1° motion in either House of the Oireachtas in respect of the judge (unless he or she sooner ceases to be a judge).
- (5) Where a panel of inquiry makes a report under *subsection (3)* it shall adjourn the investigation of the complaint or matter concerned.
- (6) A report under *subsection (3)* shall—
- (a) record the opinion of the panel of inquiry referred to in that subsection,
- (b) the reasons for that opinion, and

- (c) recommend to the Judicial Conduct Committee that it make a referral in relation to the judge concerned.
- (7) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, as soon as practicable after receiving a report under *subsection (3)*, send a copy of the report to the judge concerned, together with a notice specifying the period within which the judge may make submissions in relation to the report.
- (8) Submissions to the Judicial Conduct Committee by a judge in relation to a report under *subsection (3)* shall be in writing.
- (9) The Judicial Conduct Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the expiration of the period specified in the notice referred to in *subsection (7)*, consider the report received from the panel of inquiry under *subsection (3)* and the submissions (if any) made by the judge concerned.
- (10) If the Judicial Conduct Committee is satisfied that a referral is required in relation to the judge concerned, the Committee shall, as soon as practicable, furnish to the Minister—
- (a) the report received from the panel of inquiry under *subsection (3)*,
 - (b) the submissions (if any) made by the judge concerned in relation to that report, and
 - (c) the views (if any) of the Judicial Conduct Committee with regard to the report referred to in *paragraph (a)* and the submissions (if any) referred to in *paragraph (b)*.
- (11) The Registrar shall, as soon as practicable after the Judicial Conduct Committee complies with *subsection (10)*, notify the judge concerned in writing thereof and shall provide him or her with a copy of the views (if any) of the Judicial Conduct Committee with regard to the report under *subsection (3)* or submissions made by that judge in relation to that report.
- (12) The documents referred to in *subsection (10)* shall not accompany an Article 35.4.1^o motion proposed by the Minister but the Minister may use those documents, for the purposes of proposing an Article 35.4.1^o motion in respect of the judge concerned in either House of the Oireachtas, to state the matters upon which it is contended that the judge concerned should be removed from office.
- (13) If the Judicial Conduct Committee is not satisfied that the recommendation referred to in *paragraph (c)* of *subsection (6)* made by the panel of inquiry in its report under *subsection (3)* should be accepted, the Committee shall direct the panel of inquiry to continue the investigation of the complaint or matter concerned with a view to its preparing and submitting to the Committee a report thereof under *section 76*.
- (14) Where a referral is made following the investigation of a complaint under this Part, the Registrar shall notify the complainant in writing of the referral as soon as practicable after an Article 35.4.1^o motion has been proposed by the Minister in Dáil Éireann or Seanad Éireann, as the case may be, in respect of the judge concerned.

- (15) A statement or admission made by the judge concerned or evidence given to a panel of inquiry or a submission made to a panel of inquiry or to the Judicial Conduct Committee under this Part shall not be admissible—
- (a) in any proceedings in either House of the Oireachtas, or
 - (b) before a committee of either such House or of both such Houses,
- in relation to an Article 35.4.1^o motion in respect of the judge concerned.

CHAPTER 6

*Miscellaneous provisions relating to Judicial Conduct Committee and panels of inquiry***Evidence given not admissible in certain proceedings**

81. None of the following shall be admissible in evidence against a person in any criminal or other proceedings, except in proceedings for an offence under *section 69(4)* against a person:
- (a) a statement or admission made by the person to the Judicial Conduct Committee or a panel of inquiry under this Part;
 - (b) a document given or sent to the Judicial Conduct Committee or a panel of inquiry pursuant to a direction or request from the Judicial Conduct Committee or the panel of inquiry, as the case may be, to the person under this Part.

Conduct of proceedings

82. (1) Subject to this Act, proceedings relating to the investigation of a complaint under this Part shall be conducted otherwise than in public.
- (2) Any proceedings before a court arising out of or connected with a complaint, the admissibility of a complaint, an investigation of a complaint under this Part or the determination of such an investigation shall be conducted in public unless the court directs that in order to safeguard the administration of justice the proceedings should be conducted in whole or in part otherwise than in public.
- (3) A person (including a member of a panel of inquiry or the Judicial Conduct Committee) shall not disclose or publish any evidence given or the contents of any document produced by a witness while giving evidence to the panel of inquiry or the Judicial Conduct Committee otherwise than in public under this Part, except—
- (a) as directed by a court,
 - (b) in accordance with *section 83*, or
 - (c) to the extent otherwise necessary in the interests of fair procedures and with the consent in writing of the chairperson of the panel of inquiry or the chairperson of the Judicial Conduct Committee, as may be appropriate.
- (4) *Subsection (3)* shall not operate to prohibit the publication in a report under this Act of any findings by a panel of inquiry made on the basis of evidence given otherwise