



**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta**
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

List of Assistant Secretaries and Principal Officers and their responsibilities

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

April 2024

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Please note: This document may be subject to change and not representative of all activities/ functions underway in the department. The exclusion/ inclusion of functions is representative.

Heads of Division Summary

Overall management of the Planning Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Paul Hogan Assistant Secretary (ACTING)
Overall management of the Affordable Housing Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Caroline Timmons Assistant Secretary
Overall Management of the Social Housing Delivery Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Paul Benson Assistant Secretary (ACTING)
Overall management of the Homelessness, Rental and Social Inclusion Division and of policy and operational matters arising	David Kelly Assistant Secretary
Overall management of the Housing Policy and Standards Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Aine Stapleton Assistant Secretary
Overall Management of the Local Government Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Fiona Quinn Assistant Secretary
Overall management of Corporate and Business Support Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Marguerite Ryan Assistant Secretary
Overall management of Met Éireann and of policy and operational matters arising	Eoin Moran Director
Overall management of Local Government Audit Service and of policy and operational matters arising	Niamh Larkin Director of Audit
	Niall Ó Donnchú

Overall management of the Heritage Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Assistant Secretary
Overall management of the Water Division and of policy and operational matters arising	Fintan Towey Assistant Secretary

Assistant Secretaries and Directors

Responsibility at Assistant Secretary and Director level shall comprise:

- supporting the Secretary General and other members of the management team to ensure that the Department meets its overall objectives and aims;
- advising the Secretary General, the Ministers and Government, as appropriate, on strategic direction, the formulation of policy and the implementation of relevant Government policies;
- preparing the relevant elements of the published Statement of Strategy 2021-2025 and associated progress reports for approval by the Secretary General, the Minister and the Ministers of State;
- the achievement of objectives relevant to the Division (as specified in the Department's Statement of Strategy 2021-2025 and its successors) and managing work to that end, ensuring delivery (within the limits of resources provided) of the outputs determined by the Minister, Ministers of State and the Secretary General;
- overseeing preparation of Business Plans within the Division and providing quarterly status updates in relation to Business Plans to the Management Board through the Strategic Business Support Unit;
- managing the overall performance of the Division, including overseeing the assignment of specific responsibilities to individual officers or groups of officers within the area, ensuring the Performance Management and Development System is implemented in the area and that the day-to-day business of the area is managed effectively and ensuring the proper development of the senior management team in the Division through formal training, coaching etc.;
- ensuring the proper use of resources in the Division, including effective financial management, and the provision of cost-effective public services appropriate to the area;
- ensuring the maintenance of appropriate systems and structures to support the work of the Division;
- taking appropriate steps to ensure the effective management of the risk register in the Division;
- ensuring the coordination and alignment of the Division's activities with those of other Divisions within the Department and between areas within the Division, as appropriate;
- participation on the Management Board and other internal management groups, as arranged and required from time to time;
- communicating effectively with relevant stakeholders, both internally and externally, including appearing at relevant speaking engagements and contributing to dialogue with other Departments, representative bodies and interested organisations, as well as at EU and international forums, on departmental matters and strategic developments; and
- requirement to hold Divisional meetings.

Head of Business Unit

Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level shall comprise:

- supporting the wider management team to achieve the overall objectives of the Department;
- strategic planning for the Unit, including the preparation of an annual Business Plan, in line with the relevant Departmental strategic objectives;
- the provision of policy advice to the Management Board, the Minister and Ministers of State, as appropriate;
- implementation by the Unit of relevant policies in accordance with Government/Ministerial guidelines and directives;
- acting to achieve, as far as possible, objectives relevant to the Unit (in accordance with business plans and the Department's Statement of Strategy 2021-2025 and its successors and within the limits of the resources provided) and monitoring progress to that end;
- managing the day-to-day business of the Unit and overseeing the assignment of specific responsibilities to individual officers or groups of officers within the Unit;
- promoting the effective performance of staff up to and including Assistant Principal and equivalent, including implementation of the Performance Management and Development System in the Unit and ensuring the proper development of staff in the Unit through formal training, coaching, etc.;
- the maintenance of appropriate systems and structures to support the work of the Unit;
- taking appropriate steps to ensure the effective management of the risk register in the Unit;
- ensuring the proper use of resources, including effective financial management, and the provision of cost-effective public services appropriate to the Unit;
- coordinating the Unit's activities with those of other Units and Departments;
- communicating effectively with relevant stakeholders, both internally and externally, including participation on relevant inter-departmental groups, consultative committees, internal management groups and sub-committees, where required; and
- requirement to hold Business Unit meetings

The specific responsibilities assigned to each officer at Assistant Secretary/Director and Head of Business Unit levels are set out in the following pages.

Planning Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Planning Division, and in particular for ensuring that the appropriate strategic policy and legislative planning framework is in place to promote and support sustainable economic growth and balanced regional, rural and urban development, while ensuring adherence to obligations regarding environmental protection. This is effected through implementation of Project Ireland 2040 and in particular the National Planning Framework (NPF), by maintaining a transparent and robust planning system and providing appropriate policy guidance and resources to planning authorities, An Bord Pleanála and the Office of the Planning Regulator, to deliver their statutory functions. This necessarily involves interactions on strategic housing and infrastructure policy, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES), urban regeneration policy including the implementation of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund and land management policy, including oversight of the Land Development Agency and Tailte Eireann.</p>	<p>Paul Hogan Assistant Secretary (Acting)</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the overall planning legislative framework and associated regulations and planning guidelines to support the operation of the planning consent/ development management system, as part of the overall Divisional objective of ensuring that the appropriate strategic policy and legislative planning framework is in place to promote sustainable economic growth and balanced regional development. In carrying out its functions, the unit works in close collaboration with the EU and International Planning Regulation unit and the Principal Adviser and the team in the National Regional and Urban Planning unit as well as providing support and expertise to other Units and Divisions in advancing relevant planning-related aspects of the Department's strategic business agenda. A critical part of the role is the appropriate functioning of the planning process and system, including planning process resourcing, ongoing review of the planning system and streamlining of planning processes through measures such as legislative change and e-planning.</p>	<p>Terry Sheridan Principal Officer Planning, Policy and Legislation unit</p>

<p>While the Planning, Governance and Oversight unit deals with governance issues for An Bord Pleanála, this unit continues to have important interactions with the Board in relation to the functioning of the planning system, its overall coherence and the legislative and policy framework that it operates under.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Review and Consolidation of Planning Legislation that is being conducted in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General. Key tasks include the enactment of the Planning and Development Bill 2023; the development and management of programme to revise the Planning and Development Regulations; preparation and implementation of a plan to commence the provisions in the Planning and Development Bill including transitional arrangements to move the planning system from the Planning and Development Act 2000 to the new legislation.</p>	<p>Mary Jones Principal Officer Planning Legislation Review Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for leading the development, implementation and guidance for EU Directives relevant to the Planning System in Ireland – with particular responsibility for the Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment Directives within the Planning System. Responsibility for the development, implementation and updating of UN obligations in the Planning System such as the Espoo Convention and Protocol on Transboundary Environmental Assessment, including management of transboundary consultation processes at a national/ international level, and the Aarhus Convention on access to Environmental information and decisions. Advise on and manage the Department’s planning litigation in domestic courts relating to EU law particularly relating to the EIA and SEA Directives, as well as CJEU referrals and relevant infringements and provide SEA advisory function to the Department including screening and management of Strategic Environmental Assessment (and Habitats Directive/Appropriate Assessment) processes for Plans and Programmes made by the Division (and Department if relevant).</p>	<p>Lisa Clifford Principal Officer EU and International Planning Regulation unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit Adviser level for the provision of professional planning advice within the Department, especially within the Planning Division and</p>	<p>Claragh Mulhern Principal Adviser</p>

<p>working closely with the Housing Delivery and project, Legislation and Governance Divisions in particular, in relation to the preparation of planning policy and legislation, the preparation and implementation of the National Planning Framework and the development of planning policy through Ministerial guidelines and best planning practice among regional assemblies and local authorities and An Bord Pleanála. The PA Planning has lead responsibility for the delivery of Divisional objectives in relation to national and regional policy development and implementation, specifically regarding the implementation of Project 2040: National Planning Framework, including reporting and review; oversight of Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies and Metropolitan Area Spatial Plans and statutory development plans and local area plans; Liaison with the Office of the Planning Regulator, including managing the process for any Directions to local authorities and regional assemblies on their statutory plans and strategies as may be recommended by the Office; Urban and Land management policy and guidelines, including interactions with and enabling the mandate of the Land Development Agency and local authorities with regard to the delivery of housing in addition to interaction with relevant Departments in connection with spatially-based tax and incentive measures; interactions with other Government Departments including with respect of the development of policy related to climate mitigation and adaptation and sustainable and integrated land use and transportation planning; Supporting the implementation of the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund and other capital funds of relevance to the achievement of planning objectives administered by the Department; European/International aspects of spatial and urban policy and leading team working with Divisional colleagues on implementation issues such as guidelines, directives and efficacy of the planning system.</p>	<p>National, Regional & Urban Planning Policy unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit Level, for Departmental Governance and Oversight of The Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR), An Bord Pleanála, the Land Development Agency (LDA) and Tailte Éireann in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. This includes managing the Ministerial Consent process as required under the LDA Act for the LDA's capital commitments, borrowings and subsidiaries. Collaborating with colleagues in D/FIN and D/PENDR to determine the long term direction and</p>	<p>Danny O'Sullivan Principal Officer Planning Governance and Oversight Unit</p>

<p>funding requirements of the LDA. Leading on various work streams in relation to the transformational change of An Bord Pleanála, specifically the implementation of actions arising from OPR Reviews of An Bord Pleanála, delivering on the Ministerial Action Plan for ABP, designing ABP legislative reforms, ABP Workforce planning and organisational restructuring. Designing and shaping of recruitment processes for ABP Executive leadership positions including; ABP Board members/Planning Commissioners, Governing Board and Chairperson/CEO. Designing the legislative framework to enable the transition of ABP to An Coimisiún Pleanála. Progressing certain Planning Reviews.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF), which is a flagship element of Project Ireland 2040 designed to support the National Planning Frameworks objectives and growth enablers for cities and larger towns in order to drive, through regenerative projects, the compact and sustainable growth and development of these large urban centres.</p> <p>Responsibilities include the financial governance and management of the URDF fund, collaboration with the Departments planning advisors and other Government Departments and Agencies to ensure compliance with planning policy and national policies and legislation.</p> <p>The ongoing, monitoring and management and driving delivery of approved projects in compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code (PSC) and the invitation, assessment and Ministerial approval of new projects.</p>	<p>Vacancy Principal Officer (URDF) Unit</p>

Local Government Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Local Government Division. The Division deals with, inter alia, workforce planning policy; organisational, political and structural effectiveness and modernisation; oversight and governance policy in respect of local and regional government. In terms of finances, the Division deals with commercial rates policy and the allocation of local property tax. The Division also provides national leadership and coordination on fire; severe weather and emergency management through the dedicated National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management. The Division has lead responsibility for coordination of the oversight and governance of the Department's State agencies and for the Franchise function and policy, including the modernisation of the electoral registration process.</p>	<p>Fiona Quinn Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Franchise Unit. Key tasks include ongoing review of the legislation for and administration of elections, referendums and political funding; operational tasks relating to the running of elections and referendums; the development of new legislation to meet Programme for Government and other electoral reform commitments; provision of information and advice to returning officers, registrations authorities and members of the public ensuring preparedness at all times for the holding of elections and referendums.</p>	<p>Barry Ryan Principal Officer Franchise Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for Franchise (Electoral Registration Project). The project aims to deliver improvements in the electoral registration process for administrators and the public, which will protect and enhance the integrity of the system over time. Key tasks include policy development, stakeholder consultation and the project management of a programme of potential reforms, with a view to implementation, including legislative and ICT elements,</p>	<p>Petra Woods Principal Officer Franchise (Electoral Registration Project)</p>

<p>including supporting the delivery of a National Electoral Registration system by the Local Government Sector.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for policy and legislation in relation to local government reform and development, and review of specific local government structures and boundaries. Supporting international level engagement on local government matters</p>	<p>Niamh Drew Principal Officer Local Government Structures and Modernisation</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for overseeing the governance of State Bodies under the aegis of the Department, including managing Periodic Critical Reviews of the State Bodies and acting as the Department's point of contact (State Boards Liaison Officer) with the Public Appointments Service (PAS) in relation to the appointment of State Board members.</p>	<p>Ciara Hendley Principal Officer State Body Oversight and Governance Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for certain policy development initiatives, including the governance of cities and directly elected mayors with executive functions, and increasing the participation of women in local government. The unit is also responsible for supporting effective governance arrangements in local authorities, including matters such as engagement with representative associations of elected members; the role and conditions of elected members, and associated training requirements; ethics provisions in the local government sector; customer service; the local authority code of governance and corporate plans. Submissions to the Minister under the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 from the local government sector also fall within the unit's remit.</p>	<p>Diarmuid O'Leary Principal Officer LG Governance and Elected Members</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Department's role in relation to: Local Authority HR policies including the oversight of strategic work force planning in the local authority sector, assessing and granting staff sanction requests where appropriate, declaring qualifications in the sector to allow for ongoing recruitment. Providing support to Local Authorities for the appointment of Temporary Chief Executives as appropriate. Representing the Department in</p>	<p>Sharon Finegan Principal Officer Local Government Human Resources</p>

<p>respect of discussions on Local Government industrial relations matters. Contribute, as required, to negotiations on a successor to the Building Momentum Public Service Agreement, with a view to ensuring that key productivity and reform measures for the sector are agreed. Issuing all HR and Pay related circulars for the LG Sector. Providing a pay and pensions policy function in respect of local authorities, including issuing all relevant pay and pensions circulars, dealing with legacy queries from local authorities in respect of the LG Single Scheme pension, continued implementation of a system of reimbursements of Single Pension Scheme liabilities incurred by local authorities. Processing Ministerial superannuation-related consent requests from Ervia and Uisce Éireann. The ongoing operation of the Outside Appointments Board for the Local Authority Sector. The processing of staff sanction requests in the non-commercial semi-state bodies.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Local Government Finance Unit. This unit seeks to ensure that the finances of local authorities are on a sustainable footing and that the local government sector has an appropriately structured funding system to meet existing and emerging challenges. This includes management of the Local Property Tax allocations, the Local Government Fund and Commercial Rates policy. The unit also has responsibility for the local government accounting framework and oversight of local government sector borrowing.</p>	<p>Sinead O’Gorman Principal Officer Local Government Finance Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level and as National Director for Fire and Emergency Management for leading the development and oversight of local authority fire safety and fire services and for the management and development of policy and legislation and all Oireachtas related matters in the areas of fire safety, fire services and emergency management. The National Director also leads the Department’s internal arrangements for its “Lead Government Department” roles in emergency and crisis management and contributes significantly to broader emergency management and civil protection arrangements. As well as the normal reporting relationship to the Assistant Secretary in the Local Government division, the National Director reports to the National Directorate’s own Management Board on fire services and local authority emergency</p>	<p>Keith Leonard Principal Fire Adviser Fire Services & Emergency Management Directorate</p>

management issues and separately to a National Steering Group on Major Emergency Management.	
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Corporate and Business Support Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the overall management of the Corporate and Business Support Division which incorporates Human Resources; training and development; departmental corporate governance; Departmental finance and accounts functions; driving the Department's reform and digital transformation programme; ICT; statistical and data analytics support; facilities management; Legal Unit; Internal Audit; EU and International coordination for the Department; and overseeing the provision of strategic and business support services, including facilities management, communications and the press office, to the wider Department.</p>	<p>Marguerite Ryan Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the strategic management and delivery of the HR and Learning and Development functions for the Department. Management and implementation of programme of change and renewal as outlined in the Civil Service Renewal Plan. Implementation of the Department's People Strategy 2018-2020, WELL (Well-being, Engagement, Learning and development and Leadership). Develop and review workforce plans, including succession policies, mobility programmes, and associated HR matters. Supporting staff learning and development arising from identified departmental objectives and the implementation of PMDS.</p>	<p>Niamh Gallagher Principal Officer Human Resources Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Department's internal and external communications function.</p>	<p>Alex Connolly Principal Officer Communications Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit for the planning, delivery and management of the Departments accommodation needs across all locations. This includes overseeing the maintenance and facilities management of</p>	<p>PO Vacancy Facilities Management Unit</p>

<p>these locations while ensuring that a quality working environment is provided to all staff which meets modern standards. The unit also has responsibility for overseeing the Health & Safety and Facilities. The unit also has responsibility for Access and Inquiry Officer Information in accordance with the Disability Act 2005. It is also responsible for the governance and oversight of the Department's administrative budgets.</p>	
<p>As the most senior adviser to the Minister, the Department's Management Board and the Department's agencies on ICT and Digital Transformation, the Chief Information Officer is responsible for driving the Government digitization agenda for the Department, inherently directing the digital transformation programme across the agencies under its remit and especially the Local Government sector by fostering effective partnerships for a coherent governance and strategic direction in line with the wider public service. Also has responsibility for shaping the strategic direction for Digital platforms, Data and ICT, leading and directing staff and other resources providing support and advice on digital technologies and transformation to the Department's senior management and all agencies under its remit.</p>	<p>Mihai Bilauca, Chief Information Officer ICT, ICT PMO, DTU and SDAU</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the ICT Unit, including providing a service to the Management Board and all business units in the use of information and communication systems to deliver on the Department's strategic and business objectives in an effective and efficient manner; ensuring the provision of ICT service is matched to the Department's business objectives; further developing the use of ICT in enabling the sharing of data and knowledge across the Department. Oversee developing, managing and supporting the ICT infrastructure of the Department, progressing towards a harmonised approach by the Department. Progress EU and Irish Government Strategies including the Government ICT Strategy, Cyber Strategy, Digital Strategy, and other. Progress the end user awareness programme for ICT Security Policies, Cyber and Information Security. ICT Liaison to DGOU for the Department.</p>	<p>Evelyn McGuinness Principal Officer ICT Unit</p>

<p>Responsibility as Head of the ICT-PMO and part of the overall ICT unit. Overseeing the provision of project management resources to Business Units within the Department for the successful and timely delivery of ICT projects. The ICT-PMO also provides performance reports to the ICT-Governance Team and Management Board on project performance on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Mike Moone Principal Officer ICT Project Management Office</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Statistics and Data Analytics Unit. Overseeing the collaborative implementation of the Data Strategy. Managing Data Management, Analytical, GIS and Statistical activities with a particular focus on monthly and quarterly housing statistics. Providing advice on Data Management and Data Analytics. Acting as a primary point of contact with the CSO.</p>	<p>Martin Tully Principle Officer Head of Data & Analytics</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to lead the development and implementation of an integrated ICT project for the management and reporting of housing programmes operated by the Department. The objectives of the project are to develop a system to improve the management and storage of housing programmes and data, to engender more efficient and effective use of data for policy and programme decisions and to provide consistent reporting of data.</p>	<p>Mairéad Ross Principal Officer Project Díon</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Strategic and Business Support Unit. This includes responsibility for the management of Statutory compliance such as Freedom of Information, strategic planning and annual reports as well as corporate governance including risk management and procurement framework. The role includes oversight and implementation of the Business Continuity Management Framework for the department. This unit has a remit covering all areas of the department, apart from Met Éireann.</p>	<p>Elizabeth Cosgrave Principal Officer Strategic & Business Support Unit</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Finance Unit in the Department, which has a central role in the financial resourcing of the Department (through the annual estimates and financial management processes). It supports effective decision making by providing relevant and up to date management information. It also provides monthly expenditure reports to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.</p> <p>Financial Systems Unit The Financial Systems Unit (FSU) is responsible for the support and development of the Oracle FMS (Financial Management System) and for Department engagement with DPER on the Financial Management Shared Services project. The Unit is currently engaged in an Oracle Stabilisation Project. The Unit also coordinates consultancies and discharge of the Department's Asset Accounting obligations.</p> <p>Accounts Unit The Accounts Unit ensures prompt processing of all payments and receipts and ensures an efficient and effective accounting function is maintained. The Unit also meets statutory reporting requirements including the annual Appropriation Account and accounts for the Local Government Fund, and to assist with the provision of financial and other information required by management.</p>	<p>Sinead Kehoe Principal Officer Departmental Finance and Accounts Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the planning and delivery of the internal audit service in the Department in accordance with the IAU Charter and audit plans approved by the Audit Committee and Management Board. The Head of Internal Audit is also responsible for developing a quality assurance and improvement programme and ensuring that internal audit work complies with DPER Internal Audit Standards. Responsible for servicing the Audit Committee including providing briefing to it on all aspects of IAU work at its quarterly meetings.</p>	<p>Marie Duffy Head of Internal Audit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the provision of legal advisory services to the Department. Liaison between the Department and the Office of the</p>	<p>Sarah Farrell Head of Legal Unit</p>

<p>Attorney General, the Chief State Solicitor’s Office and the State Claims Agency, as appropriate.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for Strategic HR, Information Management and International. Development, implementation, and review of the Department’s Blended Working policy; management and implementation of programme of change and renewal as outlined in the Civil Service Renewal Plan; oversight and implementation, and further development of the Department’s People Strategy, WELL (Wellbeing - Engagement – Leadership - Learning and Development); organisational development including the annual Senior Management Conference; implementation of the Organisational Capability Review; Civil Service Employee Engagement Survey and management of actions arising; development of knowledge management and formal exit management policy. Management of Data Protection Unit; development and implementation of Records Management policy and retention schedule and National Archives Act compliance. Corporate oversight of the Department’s engagement with the EU institutions with respect to transpositions, infringements, legislative proposals, EU-UK/Brexit matters, and NRRP/Semester; UN, OECD, Council of Europe, North-South Ministerial Council, and Sustainable Development Goals. Preparation for Ireland’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union, July - December 2026.</p>	<p>Evelyn Carroll Principal Officer Strategic HR, Information Management and International Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility as Principal Officer for leading the digital transformation agenda for the Department through the development and implementation of the Digital Strategy 2030 and its alignment to Departmental, National and European strategic goals and objectives. Alison has responsibility for leading the Digital Transformation Unit which is responsible for the delivery of effective departmental customer-centric solutions, websites and supporting back office systems whilst maximising on the reuse of government digital assets. She contributes to the digital transformation of the wider public and civil service through her ongoing engagements and partnerships with other public bodies.</p>	<p>Alison Boland Principal Officer Digital Transformation</p>

Responsibility as Programme Manager to the Minister. The principle role is to support the Minister, the Secretary General and the Management Board in ensuring effective Ministerial and Departmental engagement generally. The key functions are:

- Assist and enable engagement between the Minister, Secretary General and the Management Board and supporting effective Ministerial and Departmental engagement generally.
- Monitoring implementation and supporting the effective management of Government Business.

Supporting the effective management of Oireachtas business.

Siobhán Nic Thighearnáin

Principal Officer

Minister's Programme
Management Office (PMO)

Affordable Housing Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Affordable Housing Division, including oversight of the development and delivery of the Division's commitments and deliverables under the Programme for Government and Housing for All, particularly Pathway 1 in relation to Homeownership and Increasing Affordability, Pathway 3 in relation to Increasing New Supply and Pathway 4 in relation to Addressing Vacancy. Leading and managing an inter-disciplinary team to deliver a broad range of objectives in the housing area.</p>	<p>Caroline Timmons Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Affordable Housing Capital Funding and Schemes unit. This unit supports affordable housing programme development and delivery by local authorities and the Land Development Agency, with policy support and capital funding to secure affordability, pipeline development and enabling infrastructure provision. The Unit administers Affordable Housing Fund subsidy payments to local authorities. It also oversees the identification and transfer of housing-suitable underutilised State land to the LDA.</p>	<p>Laura Behan Principal Officer Affordable Housing AHF & LDA Delivery</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the oversight of the local authority mortgage lending programme, including the Local Authority Home Loan scheme and other associated issues, such as managing legacy loans.</p> <p>Responsibility for the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund, through overseeing the completion of the remaining projects and supporting their delivery of infrastructure and housing developments.</p>	<p>Michael Hough Principal Officer LA Home Loan and LIHAF</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Vacant Homes Unit. The Unit oversees, drives and supports the co-ordinated approach to addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock under Pathway 4 of Housing for All and in the context of Towns Centre First Policy and other relevant policies. The Business Unit is responsible for delivery of key</p>	<p>Ann Marie O'Connor Principal Officer Vacant Homes Unit</p>

<p>actions on Vacancy in Pathway 4 of HfA e.g. development of schemes under the Croi Cónaithe Towns fund and supports their delivery by the Local Authorities. The Unit supports the work of Vacant Homes Officers (VHOs) across the Local Authorities; supports capture of data on vacancy which can be used to activate properties, inform development and delivery policies and schemes and measure their effectiveness. It liaises within the Department, and engages and works with LAs, the Housing Agency and other stakeholders in addressing vacancy.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to co-support divisional commitments in the Housing Affordability Division with respect to home ownership measures and affordability including non-delivery housing funding schemes as per objectives under the National Development Plan (NDP) and Project Ireland 2040. SDUA is responsible for on-going professional/technical and specialist housing advisory support to the division via the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a Strategic Advisory support/co-ordination lead for Affordable Housing Strategy, as aligned with Project Ireland 2040 and Housing For All, which includes core multi-annual Capital Investment Programmes within the Division; • Leading/Enabling the operational delivery of programme priorities via the implementation of the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF), Cost Rental Sector (CREL) Investment while leading on <i>Housing for All</i> Investment programmes such as Croí Cónaithe (Cities) and co-ordinating with the Land Development Agency's (LDA) overall delivery programme; • Developing, building and showcasing a qualitative approach to the delivery of affordable housing including exemplary practice via pilot pathfinders/showcase projects; <p>Developing better sectoral knowledge via professional/external engagements both nationally and on an EU/ Pan-European basis in relation to standards in the design/delivery of affordable Housing.</p>	<p>Martin Colreavy Senior Advisor Strategic Delivery & Urban Advisory</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for Housing Affordability Policy and Cost Rental. The Unit supports the development of policy including regulations, guidance and operational structures in relation to the Affordable Housing Act</p>	<p>Sarah Cooney Principal Officer</p>

<p>2021 - the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Scheme, First Home shared equity scheme and cost rental policy. The Unit also has responsibility for oversight of the Cost Rental Equity Loan (CREL), Cost Rental Tenant-in-situ schemes (CRTiS) and the First Home Scheme. This Unit also provides plays a central role across the Affordable Housing Division coordinating and delivering a centralised system for the provision of briefings, data returns and communications across all Units within the Division.</p>	<p>Housing Affordability Policy and Cost Rental</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Residential Viability Unit. The unit oversees the development, operation and ongoing management of the Secure Tenancy Affordable Rental investment scheme (STAR) and the Croí Cónaithe Cities scheme. STAR aims to support the delivery and improve the viability of Cost Rental homes at rents which are a minimum of 25% below comparable market rental levels. The Croí Cónaithe (Cities) Scheme supports the building of apartments for sale to owner-occupiers, aiming to bridge the current “viability gap” between the cost of building apartments and the market sale price (where the cost of building is greater).</p>	<p>Trevor Donnelly Principal Officer Housing Viability Schemes</p>

Social Housing Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Social Housing Delivery Division with responsibility for leading and overseeing the delivery of commitments in the Programme for Government and under Housing for All in respect of social housing delivery and advancing related objectives under the National Development Plan and Project Ireland 2040.</p> <p>This includes the delivery of 90,000 new build social homes by Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies by 2030 and further delivery of new social homes through acquisition and leasing programmes. The division is supported in this work by the Housing Agency, the Housing Delivery Co-Ordination Office (HDCO), the NDFA and the Departments own Housing Advisory Unit's Architectural and Quantity Surveyor teams.</p> <p>The management of major housing regeneration programmes and leading the local authority sector on the transition from a largely response to a strategic and informed planned maintenance approach to housing stock maintenance through the strategic use of existing funding programmes such as the Energy Retrofit and Voids funding programmes.</p> <p>The management of the Mortgage to Rent Scheme which strives to keep families who are in long term mortgage arrears in their homes and supporting a programme of refurbishments of buildings for persons from Ukraine who are beneficiaries of temporary protection.</p> <p>The division is also responsible for the management and oversight of the €2.7bn social housing budget and reporting of housing delivery and outputs, including the further development of reporting and data systems as well as the broader Housing Finance function which supports all four Housing Divisions.</p>	<p>Paul Benson</p> <p>Assistant Secretary (Acting)</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for National oversight for the Social Capital Investment Programme including delivery against targets under LA construction and acquisition and Buy & Renew scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific responsibility for the Social Capital Investment Programme for 21 LAs: Kildare, Meath, Westmeath, Wicklow, Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Galway City, Galway County, Donegal, Cavan, Monaghan, Mayo, Tipperary, Clare, Laois, Offaly, Longford, Leitrim, Roscommon; • National oversight for the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) for delivery by Approved Housing Bodies of priority housing (People with Disabilities, elderly, homeless) via construction and acquisition; <p>Implementation of CAS for 21 LAs and payments on other Social Housing Capital Programmes under Energy Efficiency, Voids, Disabled Person Grants, Improvement Works In Lieu programmes.</p>	<p>Aidan O'Reilly Principal Officer Social Housing Capital Investment Programme (1)</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the management of the Social Housing Capital Investment Programme and the Capital Assistance Scheme for the provision by AHBs of community-based housing for homeless persons, older people and people with a disability for 10 local authorities: Dublin City, South County Dublin, DLR, Fingal, Limerick, Cork City and County, Louth, Kerry and Sligo. This includes the capital funding provision for local authority housing through programmes of construction and acquisitions, liaising with local authorities on advancement of projects and development of new proposals, overseeing the range of funding streams and working with LAs and other stakeholders with regard to targets and capital delivery under the Programme for Government. This unit is also responsible for the Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Regeneration Programme for physical, social and economic regeneration of targeted LA estates.</p>	<p>Brendan White Principal Officer Social Housing Capital Investment Programme (2)</p>

TBC	<p>PO Vacancy</p> <p>Social Housing Capital Investment Programme (3) Planned Maintenance, Retrofit and Voids</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for managing the Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) and working with the Housing Agency in the context of the acquisitions fund (HAAF). CALF and the HAA are funding mechanisms, which assist both the Housing Agency and approved housing bodies to build, acquire and make available housing units for social housing use.</p>	<p>Roger Harrington</p> <p>Principal Officer</p> <p>CALF & Housing Agency Acquisitions Fund</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Advisor level in the Housing Advisory unit to provide Professional & Technical advice on matters relating to Architecture and Urban Design in the Housing Division, across Departmental Structures, Local Authorities, Approved Housing Bodies and Regeneration Agencies towards promoting quality social housing delivery. This includes technical evaluation of capital works projects, towards achieving both quality in the built environment and value for money, consistent with housing, planning and urban design policy and guidelines, in compliance with the Capital Works Management Framework, the Public Spending Code and public procurement requirements, as well as Professional & Technical advice on the formulation of policy, legislation, standards and design guidance on housing and associated facilities, urban design, housing remediation and improvements.</p>	<p>Paul Altman</p> <p>Senior Advisor</p> <p>Housing Advisory Unit</p>

<p>Responsibility at Senior Advisor level in the Housing Advisory unit to provide Professional & Technical advice on construction related cost and procurement matters, in the Housing Division, across Departmental Structures, Local Authorities, Approved Housing Bodies and Regeneration Agencies towards promoting quality social housing delivery. This includes technical evaluation of capital works projects, towards achieving both quality in the built environment and value for money, consistent with housing, planning and urban design policy and guidelines, in compliance with the Capital Works Management Framework, the Public Spending Code and public procurement requirements, as well as Professional & Technical advice on the formulation of policy, legislation, standards and design guidance on housing and associated facilities, urban design, housing remediation and improvements.</p>	<p>Derek Kavanagh Senior Advisor Housing Advisory Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Advisor level in the Housing Advisory unit to provide professional & technical advice on matters relating to Architecture and Urban Design in the Housing Division, across Departmental Structures, Local Authorities, Approved Housing Bodies and Regeneration Agencies towards promoting quality social housing delivery. This includes technical evaluation of capital works projects, towards achieving both quality in the built environment and value for money, consistent with housing, planning and urban design policy and guidelines, in compliance with the Capital Works Management Framework, the Public Spending Code and public procurement requirements, as well as professional & technical advice on the formulation of policy, legislation, standards and design guidance on housing and associated facilities, urban design, housing remediation and improvements.</p>	<p>Joan MacMahon Senior Advisor Housing Advisory Unit (formerly Build Environment Advisory)</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Ukraine Humanitarian Support Unit, Social Housing Leasing and the Mortgage to Rent Scheme. The business unit supports both the refurbishment programme and the Offer a Home scheme as part of the whole of Government humanitarian response to war in Ukraine, as well as overseeing the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (SHCEP) and the Leasing Programme, which includes the Repair and Leasing Scheme (RLS), Social Housing Leasing scheme and the Enhanced Social Housing Leasing Scheme. The unit is also responsible for the Mortgage to</p>	<p>Lorraine O' Donohue Principal Officer Ukraine Humanitarian Support, Leasing and Mortgage to Rent Unit</p>

Rent scheme which is a social housing option for eligible borrowers in severe mortgage arrears.	
Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for Housing Finance; co-ordination of a number of key policy and delivery areas for the Social Housing Delivery Division, with the overarching objective of providing a clear, unified, fully informed and practical mechanism for internal and external reporting and communications, reporting under Rebuilding Ireland and ensuring consistency and confidence in delivery outputs; divisional liaison for the Social Housing Division Business Process Mapping project and integrated ICT Housing Solution. Responsible also for Departmental liaison with the Housing Delivery Co-ordination office in the LGMA.	PO Vacancy Housing Finance, Delivery Coordination and Land

Homelessness, Rental and Social Inclusion

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Homelessness, Rental and Social Inclusion Division. This includes overseeing policy development and the implementation of actions to meet objectives set out in the Programme for Government and Housing for All. The Division is responsible for national policy and funding to support local authorities to address homelessness, including the management of funding provided to local authorities to manage emergency accommodation and related supports. The Division is also responsible for developing and implementing policies to ensure the effective operation of social housing more generally. It is also responsible for national policy and funding to support the delivery of Traveller specific accommodation, in addition to broader social inclusion in the housing area, including policy to support the development of age-friendly housing and housing for people with a disability. The Division is responsible for policy in relation to the private rental market to ensure the effective operation of the sector, including ensuring the appropriate regulatory and legislative frameworks are in place. This also includes responsibility for standards in the private rental sector and ensuring compliance with minimum standards. The Division is responsible for policy and funding for social housing supports in the private rental	David Kelly Assistant Secretary

<p>market, including the Housing Assistance Payment and the Rental Accommodation Scheme.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Private Rental Market, overseeing the effective operation of the sector with a view to ensuring that appropriate, evidence-based policy and legislation is implemented to develop and manage a sustainable supply of residential rental units, thereby supporting and developing a fair and effective residential rental sector that is efficient, stable and responsive and that provides long-term and secure tenancies and investment returns; As part of its remit, the unit is responsible for the governance and oversight of the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB).</p>	<p>Catherine Comer Principal Officer Private Rental Market</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the delivery of social housing supports provided through the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). The Section is responsible for the financial oversight of the voted expenditure for the schemes, governance arrangements, and interaction with all Local Authorities and the HAP Shared Service Centre.</p>	<p>Deirdre Mason Principal Officer HAP & RAS Schemes</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the provision of a national framework of policy, legislation and funding to support housing authorities in addressing homelessness at the national and local level. This includes overseeing local authorities' homeless services programmes and the delegation of funding towards the provision of accommodation, prevention, tenancy sustainment and related services to homeless persons and persons at risk of homelessness. In addition, the Unit has responsibility for the delivery for the homeless actions set out in the Programme for Government and coordinating the Inter-Agency response to homelessness.</p>	<p>Rosemarie Tobin Principal Officer Homelessness</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for monitoring and reviewing the social housing system and progressing related PfG and Housing for All priorities and reform initiatives; ensuring appropriate evidence bases are developed for social housing policy, including through the Summary of Social Housing Assessments. Specific areas of responsibility include policy and implementation matters relating to social housing eligibility, assessment and allocation, social housing tenancy management, incl. tenant rights and obligations, differential rents, mobility, succession and tenant purchase, and Part V of the Planning and Development Act.</p>	<p>Nina Murray Principal Officer Social Housing Policy</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the provision and implementation of a national framework of policy, legislation and funding for the Traveller Accommodation Programme and the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability (Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People, and Mobility Aids Grants). Provision and implementation of a national framework of policy for Housing for Older People under the Housing Options for Our Ageing Population Joint Policy Statement and Housing for All and Disabled People under the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 and Implementation Plan including Housing for All; Policy oversight of general housing inclusion matters.</p>	<p>Patrick O’Sullivan Principal Officer Social Inclusion Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to improve the quality, safety and sustainability of rental accommodation by maintaining the legislative framework for minimum standards in rental accommodation, issuing guidelines to local authorities, overseeing the local authority private rental inspection program, setting inspection targets and providing subvention for same</p>	<p>Miriam Cadwell Principal Officer Rental Standards</p>

Housing Policy & Standards Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Housing Policy and Standards Division. This Division is responsible for leading and overseeing the delivery of commitments in the Programme for Government in respect of housing policy including oversight of the housing market, the regulation of Approved Housing Bodies, regulating building standards and the remediation of legacy building issues, as well as co-ordinating the Department's input to, and implementation of, the Climate Action Plan. The Division is also responsible for the provision of support and corporate governance oversight in respect of the Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority, the Housing Agency and the Housing Finance Agency.</p>	<p>Aine Stapleton Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility at Principal Officer level for monitoring and reporting on housing market activity, developing strategic housing policy, and providing economic research and evaluation support to the Department's housing business units. This unit deals with strategic policy matters including: long-term housing delivery targets; the Department's <i>Housing Need and Demand Assessment</i> framework; strategic residential investment; and the right to housing. The unit complements this work with a joint research programme with the ESRI, a housing research forum with relevant public sector bodies, and bespoke economic research to support the Department's operational policy development. It also monitors housing market activity, including housing delivery, pricing and affordability, and household and non-household purchaser activity, and provides housing market related reporting, briefing and insights to the Department's business units and other external stakeholders.</p>	<p>David Dalton Principal Officer Housing Market, Policy & Research</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for leading the Climate and Construction Innovation unit within the Housing Policy, Legislation and Governance Division. This unit leads and develops climate action policy within the Department, Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, Parts L, F and C</p>	<p>Sean Armstrong Senior Adviser</p>

<p>of the Building Regulations and is also responsible for placing Construction Industry Register Ireland (CIRI) on a statutory footing and for registration of construction professionals. The unit also leads on the development of Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) and policy related to reducing residential construction costs.</p>	<p>Climate & Construction Innovation</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for leading the Building Standards Advisory Unit in its role</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop policy and legislation in respect of the building control system including the Building Control Acts, Building Regulations, Building Control Regulations. • To implement EU Construction Products Regulation and Market Surveillance Regulation (in so far as it relates to construction products) and certain associated operational aspects. • To support and develop the delivery of the building control and construction product regulatory system in collaboration with local government sector. • To provide technical/professional advice on matters related to building standards. 	<p>Sarah Neary Principal Adviser Building Standards Advisory Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for supporting the implementation of Housing for All: A New Housing Plan for Ireland across the Department, Local Authorities, Approved Housing Bodies and other Agencies under the Department's remit, working in collaboration with the Housing for All Secretariat in the Department of the Taoiseach.</p>	<p>Natasha Cray Principal Officer Housing for All Programme Management Office & Coordination</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the Defective Concrete Blocks (Mica & Pyrite) Grant Scheme, the Apartment Defects Scheme and for corporate governance matters relating to the Pyrite Remediation Board.</p>	<p>Derek Rafferty Principal Officer Remediation Unit</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for leading the Unit in its role to develop policy and foster stakeholder engagement & collaboration with respect of AHBs, that supports the continued provision of social housing in line with <i>Housing for All</i> commitments. This unit is also responsible for managing the legislative framework to support effective regulation of Approved Housing Bodies as well as providing support and corporate governance oversight in respect of the Approved Housing Body Regulatory Authority, the Housing Agency and the Housing Finance Agency. This includes the provision of secretariat and management support for the AHBRA appeals board.</p>	<p>Vincent Colgan Principal Officer AHB Policy & Agency Governance; AHB Policy & Regulation</p>
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Water Division

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Water Division concerns the development of, and oversight of implementation of, policies to ensure the protection and restoration of the ecological status of Ireland's water resources – surface and groundwater and marine waters - and for the provision of effective drinking water and waste-water services to meet the needs of business and society at large. Key elements of the responsibility include the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the governance and funding of Uisce Éireann. The Division is also responsible for corporate governance of the Ervia Group.</p>	<p>Fintan Towey Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for provision of the necessary legislative and policy framework for the water services sector and water quality; proposals to provide for a constitutional amendment on the public ownership of water services; the Irish Water transformation agenda, including HR issues and the implementation of a legislative framework for the regulation and licencing of water abstractions.</p>	<p>Donal Grant Principal Officer Water Sector Policy Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the oversight of financial governance and strategic funding of Uisce Éireann including implementing and managing the long-term sustainable funding model for Uisce Éireann, oversight of Uisce Éireann's Investment Plans and Strategic Funding Plan and managing the Ministerial capital and borrowing consents process for Uisce Éireann. The Unit is also responsible for managing the transfer of water services assets, financial assets and liabilities from local authorities to Uisce Éireann and liaison with the Commission for Regulation of Utilities in relation to water issues.</p>	<p>Brían Munnelly Principal Officer Water Services Finance & Investment Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for oversight of corporate governance of Ervia and its subsidiaries including Irish Water and Gas Networks Ireland, and oversight of the</p>	<p>Shirley Groarke Principal Officer</p>

<p>Commission for Regulation of Utilities in relation to water issues. This involves managing relevant capital commitments, borrowing and other consents processes for Ervia and GNI.</p>	<p>Water Services Governance Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for leading the Water Advisory Unit. This unit consists of the Department's water policy advisers and technical policy team for water services and water quality. The unit provides broad technical advice to the Water Division and to the Department; leads Ireland's Water Framework Directive planning process including overseeing the preparation and coordination of implementation of river basin management plans and associated programmes of measures; oversees policy-level compliance with the requirements of the Nitrates Directive, Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, Bathing Waters Directive and Drinking Water Directive. It also manages related EU Infringements and provides strategic technical oversight of the associated Uisce Éireann work programmes.</p>	<p>Colin Byrne Principal Advisor Water Advisory Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive including measures to address biodiversity loss, pollution including marine litter and noise and the effects of climate change whilst supporting sustainable development and ensuring alignment with MSFD and OSPAR objectives while also implementing relevant parts of UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Life Below Water); • Leading Ireland's participation in the OSPAR Commission and its subsidiary bodies for the delivery of the North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030 including specific objectives relating to climate change and to support cooperative regional and international implementation of the MSFD; • Development of a coherent and representative network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and the provision of policy, scientific, legislative and operational actions to support the protection of species and habitats in Ireland's maritime area; • Working with other business units within the Department and other Government Departments and 	<p>Richard Cronin Principal Adviser Marine Environment Section</p>

<p>Agencies on national and international cross-cutting issues of an environmental nature (e.g. water quality, maritime spatial planning, waste, BBNJ , offshore energy, biodiversity conservation, nature based solutions, climate change effects and mitigation).</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for provision of the policy and investment in the Non-Irish Water Sector; policy in relation to the Rural Water Programme; necessary legislative and policy framework for the rural water services sector and the stewardship of related rural water subsidies and specified grant schemes.</p>	<p>Douglas Kelly Principal Officer Water Policy & Rural Water Programme</p>
<p>Responsible for the regulation of the foreshore as part of the public estate through the management of the consent process provided in the Foreshore Act 1933; contributing to the development and implementation of the new maritime area planning and regulatory system provided for in the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021; and management of the transition of the existing Foreshore consent portfolio to the new Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA).</p>	<p>Claire Finn Principal Officer Foreshore Unit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for marine planning policy in Ireland through a) ongoing development and implementation of the National Marine Planning Framework including oversight of a sub-national marine forward planning system, to serve as a decision-making framework for all primary human activities in the Maritime Area, and b) implementation of and secondary legislation related to, the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, the primary legislative vehicle to overhaul and introduce the new marine planning and development management system.</p>	<p>Marie Minihan Principal Officer Marine Planning Policy and Legislation Section</p>
<p>Responsibility at Project Manager Level for delivery of the EU Waters of LIFE Integrated Project. This is a €20.2 project which is co funded by the EU and which aims to halt and reverse the decline in Ireland's high status river waterbodies as outlined in the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021. The project will operate in 5 demonstration catchments and one control catchment to develop, trial and validate measures for the protection and restoration of high status objective rivers. The project is led by DHLGH and has a</p>	<p>Anne Goggin Principal Officer, Water Advisory Unit</p>

number of project partners including DAFM, Teagasc, Coillte, LAWPRO, Forest Service, EPA, OPW and several local development companies.	
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Met Éireann

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for Met Éireann the National Meteorological Service; acts as Ireland's Permanent Representative to the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and as principal delegate of Ireland in the Councils of other international meteorological organisations; Sets strategic direction for Met Éireann in line with Departmental policies; Allocates resources and adapts organisational structures to meet changing demands; participates in the Department's Management Board and reports directly to the Secretary General; Maintains and upgrades meteorological, hydrological and climatological operational capability, capacity, and efficiency in line with European scientific and technical norms. Responsible for ensuring that Met Éireann:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitors, analyses, and predicts Ireland's weather and climate, • produces, provides, and communicates authoritative weather, climate and hydrometeorological services to protect life and property, and to promote wider societal and economic wellbeing, • conducts research into weather, climate, and hydrometeorology to improve services to the public and emergency management, and to inform Government policy making and decision making. • fulfils its national and international obligations. 	<p>Eoin Moran Director</p>
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Director level for leadership and decision making on programmes, policies, budgets and people management across Met Éireann; overall strategic planning of Met Éireann's operational, administrative and scientific / technical activities; overall oversight of performance measurement and quality assurance for Met Éireann, direct line management responsibility for Senior Meteorologist/Heads of Divisions; provision of scientific and technical direction, innovation and leadership, Maintaining and developing relevant engagements with external organisations and groupings; representing Ireland and Met Éireann to various</p>	<p>Sarah O'Reilly Assistant Director</p>

<p>international meteorological organisations; deputising for the Director as necessary.</p>	
<p>The Chief Hydrometeorologist is the head of the Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) in Met Éireann and a member of Met Éireann's senior management team. The primary responsibility is to further develop Met Éireann's FFC, managing its operations (which include 24/7 cover as necessary) and leading further flood forecasting developments, including coastal flood forecasting capability. The role encompasses overall scientific and technical leadership for the Centre and for hydrometeorology within Met Éireann. It involves promoting the practice of hydrometeorology in Ireland, leading, advancing, and managing a team in an operational environment. Collaborating effectively with national and international hydrometeorological, hydrological, and meteorological experts and representatives is also a fundamental aspect of this role.</p>	<p>Rosemarie Lawlor Head of Flood Forecasting Forecasting Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for the Research and Applications Division which develops and operates Met Éireann's operational short-range numerical weather prediction (NWP) models. It conducts basic research in NWP in collaboration with the HIRLAM/ACCORD consortium. It also carries out Climate modelling and research activities at global and regional scales in collaboration with EC-Earth and HCLIM research communities. The Division develops and implements a series of science-based applications to support operational forecast and warning services provided by Met Éireann; these include road-ice forecasts, geolocation forecasts and specialised forecasts for the farming community.</p>	<p>Saji Varghese Senior Meteorologist Research & Applications Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level to ensure: compliance with EU and global regulations governing the provision of aeronautical meteorological services for the State; that such services are provided to the highest standards of safety and cost efficiency; that Division staff contribute effectively to the international organisations responsible for the development of regulations and procedures relating to aeronautical meteorology; the continuation of effective consultation processes with stakeholders, internal and external, to guarantee that high quality services, developed according to user needs, are provided to the aviation sector.</p>	<p>Tony Tighe Senior Meteorologist Aviation Services Division</p>

<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for managing the Observations Division of Met Éireann which is responsible for Met Éireann’s meteorological observations infrastructure. The Division is responsible for the development of systems supporting the core operational work of Met Éireann, including ground weather stations, the meteorological radar network, satellite reception systems, operating, maintaining and ensuring the sustainability of the observing networks used to define the climate of Ireland; maintaining the National Climate Archive; providing a wide range of quality assured data; producing regular publications on the Climate of Ireland. The Division is also responsible for the meteorological and environmental programmes conducted at Valentia Observatory.</p>	<p>Sarah Gallagher Senior Meteorologist Observations Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Principal Officer level for Business Continuity and Facilities Management within Met Éireann. This includes Embedding Business Continuity in general operations and processes; The development of ICT Disaster Recovery and Managed Services to facilitate Business Continuity in Met Éireann’s ICT systems and core operations; Management of Met Éireann’s facilities countrywide, and co-ordination of accommodation works and property developments in conjunction with the Office of Public Works; Co-ordination of Health and Safety compliance; Records/Data Management policies, including Open Data compliance and customer contract management, oversight and support. The National Meteorological Library also falls within the Division's remit.</p>	<p>Alyn Deane Principal Officer Business Continuity and Facilities Management Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for the management of Met Éireann’s ICT and Meteorological Observation infrastructure. Responsibility for development of ICT systems used for meteorological data communications, weather and climate services production and service dissemination. The IT Division manages Met Éireann’s ICT infrastructure. The Division’s functions include the support, maintenance and development of operational (24/7) systems for meteorological observation (ground stations, satellite and radar) meteorological data management and communication weather and climate services production and dissemination. The Technology Division also provides general office ICT services to Met Éireann.</p>	<p>Shay Greene Senior Meteorologist Technology Division</p>

<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for managing the Forecast Division of Met Éireann which incorporates both operational and strategic tasks. The primary responsibility is to ensure resilient 24/7/365 operations in the Central Analysis and Forecast Office and in the Central Aviation Office. These offices also support weather broadcasting on RTÉ radio and television, and build and maintain an online presence for Met Éireann. Critical tasks include the provision of forecast and warnings services to the road maintenance community and the aviation community. Forecast Division provides a high degree of support to Emergency Management in Ireland in both planning and operational phases, and coordinates with the forecast and warning services of other European National Met Services as appropriate. Forecast Division also provides, through MET web, key weather information online to help support decision-making across many public-service bodies, ranging from the Gardaí through to the Local Authorities.</p>	<p>Eoin Sherlock Senior Meteorologist Forecasting Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for managing the Climate Services Division, which incorporates both operational and developmental tasks.</p> <p>The division has responsibility for the development of a National Framework for Climate Services, in support of Irish climate adaptation, through the provision of standardised climate services; the analysis of Ireland’s climate including regular international reporting to the World Meteorological Organization; the provision of climate communications both through scheduled climate summaries as well as stakeholder and media support during extreme weather and related climate events.</p> <p>The division also supports international climate initiatives such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Change (IPCC).</p>	<p>Keith Lambkin Senior Meteorologist Climate Services Division</p>
<p>Responsibility at Senior Meteorologist level for the management of Met Éireann’s business support functions as Ireland’s National Meteorological Service including; Budgetary co-ordination across all Divisions, management and oversight of Met Éireann’s administrative budgets, financial reporting and asset management; Co-ordinating Met Éireann’s strategic HR/IR functions for 160+ staff, including staff</p>	<p>Josephine Prendergast Senior Meteorologist Business Operations Division</p>

recruitment/promotion competitions, business and workforce planning, liaison with staff associations; Developing and implementing training and development plan for all staff; Corporate governance and coordination of strategic and business planning; Developing engagement with research partners and funding entities both nationally and internationally, Communications and Business Solutions.	
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Local Government Audit Service

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the functions of the Director of Audit, a statutory function prescribed in section 116(3) of the Local Government Act 2001, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) to organise, direct and allocate resources within the Local Government Audit Service; (b) to assign audits of particular local authorities or other bodies to particular local government auditors; and (c) to provide such advice and assistance as the Minister may from time to time require for the purposes of section 117 (1) (Amending / updating the statutory Code of Audit Practice). <p>The Local Government Audit Service mission is to carry out the audits of local government bodies in accordance with the Code of Local Government Audit Practice, thereby fostering the highest standards of financial stewardship, governance and public accountability. LGAS also responsible to undertake Value for Money audits and publish reports thereon to facilitate local authorities in achieving value for money.</p>	<p>Niamh Larkin Director of Audit</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to complete the audits of all local authorities assigned to it under the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice and Audit Guidelines. It manages and co-ordinates the allocation of resources and delivery of audits in the Southern Region in consultation with the Director of Audit.</p>	<p>James Moran Principal Auditor</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to complete the audits of all local authorities assigned to it under the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice and Audit Guidelines. It manages and co-ordinates the allocation of resources and delivery of audits in the Western Region in consultation with the Director of Audit.</p>	<p>Ray Lavin Principal Auditor</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to manage the Value for Money (VFM) Unit in consultation with the Director of Audit. It ensures that the Local Government Audit Service delivers on its VFM remit as prescribed by units 14 and 15 of Local Government (Financial Provisions) Act, 1997 and in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice.</p>	<p>Patrick Guiney Principal Auditor</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to complete the audits of all local authorities assigned to it under the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice and Audit Guidelines. It manages and co-ordinates the allocation of resources and delivery of audits in the Dublin No. 1 Region in consultation with the Director of Audit.</p>	<p>Ita Howe Principal Auditor</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for providing full support to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) in the carrying out of its functions as the national oversight body of local government in Ireland. NOAC was established under the Local Government Reform Act 2014. NOAC is a part time board with no staff – the unit provides support in this regard. NOAC's functions are wide ranging and cover all local authority activities, involving the scrutiny of performance generally, and financial performance specifically. NOAC also has a role in supporting best practice, overseeing implementation of national local government policy and monitoring and evaluating implementation of corporate plans, adherence to service level agreements and public service reform by local government bodies. Examples of such work include NOAC's Scrutiny Process which reviews the individual performance of local authorities in accordance with its statutory functions, the production of an annual Performance indicator report which examines 44 indicators under 11 separate headings covering a wide range of the functions of those local authorities, the production of the annual Public Spending Code which provides a composite report on all 31 local authorities, the hosting of an annual Good Practice in Local Government Seminar, the carrying out of work which assists local government audit committees in their functions, engaging with Elected Members, other Government Departments and Agencies and numerous other roles on</p>	<p>Claire Gavin Principal Officer National Oversight, LG and Water</p>

<p>topics relating to customer service, governance, efficiency and reform, financial management and performance.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to complete the audits of all local authorities assigned to it under the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice and Audit Guidelines. It manages and co-ordinates the allocation of resources and delivery of audits in the Dublin No. 2 Region in consultation with the Director of Audit.</p>	<p>Daragh McMahon Principal Auditor</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level to complete the audits of all local authorities assigned to him under the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended) in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice and Audit Guidelines. It is responsible for the development of professional standards and technical matters in the Local Government Audit Service. It is also responsible for the operation, maintenance and development of the LGAS audit management system and other IT related matters.</p>	<p>Richard Murphy Principal Auditor</p>

Heritage

Functions of the Division / Business Units	Officer
<p>Responsibility at Assistant Secretary level for the Heritage Division including Built Heritage and Architectural Policy; National Monuments Service and the National Parks and Wildlife Service; the conservation and management of our unique heritage for the benefit of present and future generation, as a support to economic development and sustainable employment, and in compliance with legal obligations.</p>	<p>Niall Ó Donnchú Assistant Secretary</p>
<p>Responsibility as Chief Archaeologist, working alongside Director National Monuments Service, for advising on management and protection of Ireland’s archaeological heritage through the provision of an appropriate and effective administrative, policy and legislative framework under the National Monuments Act. Leads on implementation of Heritage Ireland 2030 and Climate Adaptation for archaeological heritage.</p>	<p>Michael MacDonagh Chief Archaeologist National Monuments Service (Archaeology)</p>
<p>Head of the NPWS Nature Conservation Directorate. Responsible for conservation measures and site designations, including in relation to Ireland’s obligations under the EU Nature Directives; oversight and governance of Waterways Ireland; North-South capital projects.</p>	<p>Ciara Carberry Director NPWS Nature Conservation Directorate</p>
<p>Responsibility for the NPWS directorate responsible for overseeing the implementation of peatlands policy and various peatlands conservation programmes including the protected raised bog restoration programme. It also oversees the management of designated sites protection issues and the National Parks and Wildlife Services role as regulator under the Enhanced Decommission Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme operated by Bord na Móna.</p>	<p>Suzanne Nally Principal Officer NPWS, Wildlife Enforcement & Nature Protection</p>

<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the operational management of our National Parks and Nature Reserves for nature conservation, as well as for education and public access for the enjoyment of nature.</p>	<p>Catriona Ryan Principal Officer NPWS, Parks & Nature Reserves</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the provision of high-quality scientific advice to underpin national nature conservation policy and the implementation of national, EU and international obligations in this regard, delivery of scientific input to the implementation of the EU Directives, including the Habitats and Birds Directives and the anticipated Nature Restoration Regulation, the provision of the scientific basis for nature conservation designations (under EU and national law) and conducting scientific monitoring and reporting as required under EU legislation. It is also responsible for supplying the scientific inputs to EU and international co-funded projects, such as LIFE projects, contributing to the implementation of the National Biodiversity Action Plan and working with other government departments and agencies in relation to content and delivery multi-annual operational programmes that are related to biodiversity</p>	<p>Andy Bleasdale Principal Officer NPWS, Scientific Advice and Research Directorate</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for the oversight of compliance with the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, the provision of advice on adherence to EU and national legislation on wildlife protection and conservation and for issuing licences under the Wildlife Acts. It is also responsible for overseeing the receipt of planning applications and Strategic Infrastructure Development applications and co-ordination and issue of built and natural heritage observations in the context of the Minister's role as a statutory consultee within the planning process.</p>	<p>Sorcha de Brúch Principal Officer NPWS, Legislation & Licensing</p>
<p>Responsibility as Director/Head of Business Unit level for conserving and managing our heritage through the provision of an appropriate administrative, policy and legislative framework under the National Monuments Act. Responsible for protecting Ireland's archaeological heritage, while promoting increased public awareness and appreciation of that heritage and the provision of information on the quality of</p>	<p>Emer Connolly Principal Officer National Monuments Service (Admin)</p>

<p>our archaeological heritage as a support and stimulus for inward investment and cultural tourism.</p> <p>Responsible for overseeing commencement of Historic and Archaeological Heritage and Miscellaneous Provisions Act (2023).</p> <p>Responsibility for the development of the planned commemorative centre at the national monument at 14 to 17 Moore Street.</p>	
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for monitoring and conserving built heritage through surveys, grants, technical guidance, and policy advice. Also responsible for promoting increased public awareness and appreciation of our built heritage, and for oversight and governance of the Heritage Council and other funded entities.</p>	<p>Daniel Sinnott</p> <p>Principal Officer</p> <p>Built Heritage and Architectural Policy</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordinating Ireland’s development of a nature restoration plan, working with all relevant departments and stakeholders to explore the full implications of the proposed Regulation. • focal point for several Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements, including aspects of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity • Development of National Management Plan for Invasive Alien Species 	<p>Áinle Ni Bhriain</p> <p>Principal Officer</p> <p>NPWS International & EU Affairs</p>
<p>Responsibility at Head of Business Unit level for oversight, management and policy development in relation to the NPWS Property Management Unit, the GIS/Data Unit, and the Development Applications Unit; and for the establishing and development of NPWS business support functions in relation to corporate governance, financial management, ICT modernisation, data management, IR for State Industrial Staff employed in the NPWS, firearms policy, communications and engagement, and implementation of the NPWS renewal Action plan.</p>	<p>Malachy Corcoran</p> <p>Principal Officer</p> <p>NPWS, Engagement, Corporate & Specialist Supports</p>

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