

## **The Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015**

### **Designated Public Officials – Department of Defence**

The Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.

The Act provides that the Standards in Public Office Commission will establish and maintain an online Register of lobbying activity - [www.lobbying.ie](http://www.lobbying.ie) . The purpose of the Register is to make information available to the public on the identity of those communicating with designated public officials on specific policy, legislative matters or prospective decisions. Lobbyists must report on their interactions with the Designated Public Officials.

Section 6(4) of the Act requires each public body to publish a list of designated public officials of the body. The purpose of the list is twofold:

1. To allow members of the public identify those persons who are designated public officials; and
2. As a resource for lobbyists filing a return to the Register who may need to source a designated public official's details.

The Designated Public Officials of the Department of Defence under this legislation are:

#### **Ministers**

- Minister Simon Coveney, TD, with responsibility for the Department of Defence and the Department of Agriculture.
- Minister of State Paul Kehoe, TD, with responsibility for Department of the Taoiseach & Department of Defence.

#### **Special Advisers**

- Caitriona Fitzpatrick, Press Adviser to Minister Coveney
- Áine Kilroy, Special Adviser to Minister Coveney
- Mark O' Doherty, Special Adviser to Minister of State Kehoe

#### **Management Advisory Committee**

- Maurice Quinn, Secretary General, with overall responsibility for the Department.
- Des Dowling, Assistant Secretary, with responsibility for Finance Branch; Human Resources Branch; Information & Communication Technologies Branch; Planning & Organisation Branch.
- Ciaran Murphy, Assistant Secretary, with responsibility for Brussels Office; Conciliation and Arbitration Branch; Defence Forces Personnel Policy Branch; International Security & Defence Policy Branch; Litigation Branch.
- Brian Spain, Director, with responsibility for Civil Defence Branch; Contracts Branch; Executive Branch; Legislation Branch; Office of Emergency Planning; Property Management Branch.